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# HOMESTEAD OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

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## SPEECHES IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 5, 12, 1916

ON A BILL TO ACCEPT A DEED OF CONVEYANCE  
FROM THE LINCOLN FARM ASSOCIATION TO  
THE UNITED STATES OF THE HOME-  
STEAD OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, NEAR  
THE TOWN OF HODGENVILLE,  
STATE OF KENTUCKY



WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1916

16-26445





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WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
1916

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[H. Res. 200, Sixty-fourth Congress, first session.]

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

*April 12, 1916.*

*Resolved*, That the speeches delivered on H. R. 8351 and the bill in relation thereto, accepting from the LINCOLN FARM ASSOCIATION title of the farm on which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born, be printed as a House document, ten thousand copies to be distributed among the Members equally through the folding room.

Attest:

SOUTH TRIMBLE,  
*Clerk.*

D. of D.

MAY 27 1916

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AN ACT

To accept a deed of gift or conveyance from the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, of land near the town of Hodgenville, county of Larue, State of Kentucky, embracing the homestead of ABRAHAM LINCOLN and the log cabin in which he was born, together with the memorial hall inclosing the same; and further, to accept an assignment or transfer of an endowment fund of \$30,000 in relation thereto.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the United States of America hereby accepts title to the lands mentioned in the deed of gift or conveyance now in possession of the President of the United States of America, together with all the buildings and appurtenances thereon, especially the log cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, which deed or conveyance was executed on the            day of            , nineteen hundred and thirteen, by the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, describing certain lands situated near the town of Hodgenville, county of Larue, State of Kentucky, which lands are more particularly identified and described in said deed or conveyance. The title to such lands, buildings, and appurtenances is accepted upon the terms and conditions stated in said deed or conveyance, namely: That the land therein described, together with the buildings and appurtenances thereon, shall be forever dedicated to the purposes of a national park or reservation, the United States of America agreeing to protect and preserve the said lands, buildings, and appurtenances, and especially the log cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, from spoliation, destruction, and further disintegration, to the end that they may be preserved for all time, so far as may be; and further agreeing that there shall never be any charge or fee made to or asked from the public for admission to the said park or reservation.

## Homestead of Abraham Lincoln

SEC. 2. That the United States of America hereby also accepts title to the endowment fund of \$50,000 mentioned in the assignment and transfer, now in the possession of the President of the United States of America, which assignment and transfer was executed on the            day of           , nineteen hundred and thirteen, by the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, transferring and turning over all its right, title, and interest in and to said endowment fund, heretofore invested in certain stocks, bonds, and securities held and owned by the Lincoln Farm Association, and more particularly identified and described in said assignment and transfer. The title to said endowment fund is accepted upon the terms and conditions stated in said assignment and transfer, namely, that the United States of America shall forever keep the said tract of land described in said deed, together with the buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging, dedicated to the purpose of a national park or reservation, and that there shall never be any charge or fee made to or asked from the public for admission to the said park or reservation; and further, shall forever protect, preserve, and maintain said land, buildings, and appurtenances, and especially the log cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, from spoliation, destruction, and further disintegration, to the end that they may be preserved for all time, as far as may be, as a national park or reservation.

SEC. 3. That the President of the United States of America and the Secretary of War are hereby authorized to execute, in the name of the United States of America, such instrument or instruments as may be or may become necessary to comply with or carry out the terms and conditions of such gift or gifts and to secure the full benefit therefrom.

SEC. 4. That upon the passage of this act and the vesting of the title to the property accepted thereunder in the United States, it shall be under the control of the Secretary of War and administered under such regulations not inconsistent with law as he may from time to time prescribe.

Passed the House of Representatives April 12, 1916.

Attest:

SOUTH TRIMBLE,  
*Clerk.*

## HOMESTEAD OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

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SPEECHES IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 5 AND 12, 1916, ON  
BILL TO ACCEPT DEED OF CONVEYANCE FROM LINCOLN FARM ASSOCIATION  
TO THE UNITED STATES.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will call the committees.

Mr. CLARK of Florida (when the Committee on the Library was called). Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER. Is the gentleman making a report from the Committee on the Library?

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Yes, sir; I desire to call up the bill H. R. 8351.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the bill by title.

The Clerk read as follows:

A bill (H. R. 8351) to accept a deed of gift or conveyance from the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America of land near the town of Hodgenville, county of Larue, State of Kentucky, embracing the homestead of ABRAHAM LINCOLN and the log cabin in which he was born, together with the memorial hall inclosing the same; and, further, to accept an assignment or transfer of an endowment fund of \$50,000 in relation thereto.

The SPEAKER. The House will automatically resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill H. R. 8351, a bill to accept a deed of gift to homestead of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, with Mr. Barnhardt in the chair.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the first reading of the bill be dispensed with.

Mr. CANNON. I think, Mr. Chairman, that the bill had better be read.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman object?



# *Homestead of Abraham Lincoln*

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Mr. CANNON. I do. I think it should be read.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will report the bill.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the United States of America hereby accepts title to the lands mentioned in the deed of gift or conveyance now in possession of the President of the United States of America, together with all the buildings and appurtenances thereon, especially the log cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, which deed or conveyance was executed on the — day of —, 1913, by the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, describing certain lands situated near the town of Hodgenville, county of Larue, State of Kentucky, which lands are more particularly identified and described in said deed or conveyance. The title to such lands, buildings, and appurtenances is accepted upon the terms and conditions stated in said deed or conveyance, namely, that the land therein described, together with the buildings and appurtenances thereon, shall be forever dedicated to the purposes of a national park or reservation, the United States of America agreeing to protect and preserve the said lands, buildings, and appurtenances, and especially the log cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, from spoliation, destruction, and further disintegration, to the end that they may be preserved for all time, so far as may be; and further agreeing that there shall never be any charge or fee made to or asked from the public for admission to the said park or reservation.

SEC. 2. That the United States of America hereby also accepts title to the endowment fund of \$50,000 mentioned in the assignment and transfer, now in the possession of the President of the United States of America, which assignment and transfer were executed on the — day of —, 1913, by the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America, transferring and turning over all its right, title, and interest in and to said endowment fund, heretofore invested in certain stocks, bonds, and securities held and owned by the Lincoln Farm Association, and more particularly identified and described in said assignment and transfer. The title to said endowment fund is accepted upon the terms and conditions stated in said assignment and transfer, namely, that the United States of America shall forever keep the said tract of land described in said deed, together with the buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging, dedicated to the purpose of a national park or reservation, and that there shall never be any charge or fee made to or asked from the public for admission to the said park or reservation; and, further, shall forever protect, preserve, and maintain said land, buildings, and appurtenances, and especially the log cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born and the memorial hall inclosing the same, from spoliation, destruction, and further disintegration, to the end that they may be preserved for all time, as far as may be, as a national park or reservation.



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SEC. 3. That the President of the United States of America and the Secretary of State are hereby authorized to execute, in the name of the United States of America, such instrument or instruments as may be or may become necessary to comply with or carry out the terms and conditions of such gift or gifts and to secure the full benefit therefrom.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I desire to yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. McKinley] such time as he may desire.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois [Mr. McKinley] is recognized.



## REMARKS BY MR. McKINLEY, OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Chairman, some 8 or 10 years ago a number of citizens of Kentucky and others scattered over the United States formed an association for the purchase of the farm and log cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born, located  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles from Hodgenville, Ky.

Mr. Chairman, the report of the committee covers the matter very fully, and I will ask that the Clerk read the report.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read the report.

The Clerk read as follows:

[House of Representatives, Report No. 221, Sixty-fourth Congress, first session.]

### TO ACCEPT DEED OF GIFT TO HOMESTEAD OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Mr. McKinley, from the Committee on the Library, submitted the following report, to accompany House bill 8351:

The Committee on the Library, to whom was referred House bill 8351, having considered the same, now reports it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

The purpose of the bill is to authorize the United States to accept as a gift not only the cabin in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born, but, in addition thereto, the farm upon which he was born; and, also, an endowment fund made up as follows: \$44,000 (par value) city of Louisville, Ky.,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent bonds, due in 1951; \$2,000 (par value) city of Louisville, Ky., 3 per cent bonds.

The present market value of these bonds is nearly \$50,000.

A magnificent marble memorial hall has been erected and incloses the cabin which stands near the spring, where it stood when LINCOLN was born.

On the farm is a substantial residence and other buildings, occupied by the superintendent of the farm. The farm comprises about 137 acres.

Those who have saved the homestead of LINCOLN from the ownership of those who might have exploited it for commercial purposes have also saved the log cabin in which he was born, and have inclosed it in the Memorial Hall, which will forever preserve it from decay. They have also cleared the farm of brush and undergrowth, have rebuilt boundary fences, have made a beautiful park immediately around Memorial Hall, and have endowed the farm with a fund sufficient to maintain it. Having done all this, they feel that they have fulfilled their undertaking, and now suggest that the Nation take it over as a gift, and see to it that LINCOLN's birthplace is preserved for all future generations.

Already thousands of people from all over the country visit the place every year. It is anticipated that future years will see this number become multiplied over and over.

## *Homestead of Abraham Lincoln*

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The property has an income of more than \$2,000 a year from the endowment fund alone and is self-sustaining.

The present holders of the fee simple title have executed a deed of conveyance, in fee, to the United States, which is held by the President pending the passage of this bill.

The committee most earnestly recommends the passage of this bill. In fact, it is hoped that it may be unanimously adopted.

Mr. Chairman, it has always seemed to me almost a blessing that, because of the necessities of LINCOLN'S parents, so many of us could have received inspiration and encouragement from a sort of neighborliness to the scenes of his early struggles. I have always been glad and proud that I was born within a mile of old Salem, where young ABRAHAM LINCOLN lived and worked and studied and loved. He went to central Illinois at the age of 21 without trade or profession, without money or influence, without a patron or friend, and there began his real career—a career not equaled in all history. There he began his first profitable work; there he began his political trend; there he began his earnest study of law and history and statecraft and men; there he gave his first love and met his first great sorrow. When the young and gracious Ann Rutledge was taken by death, brought on by a shadow of a former love, LINCOLN'S great heart went out in his own sadness and loss, and no doubt the sweet nature of his life found its birth where, as he himself said, his heart was buried. But deep as was his grief he set out with an indomitable will to master every obstacle.

History has recited the progress of our immortal statesman and you are all familiar with the names of his associates, McClelland, Stuart, Hay, Ninian and Ben Edwards, Dr. Jayne, Judge Logan, and others to whose talk I listened when a boy. I need not say that all this is the fondest memory of my life, and I allude to it as an illustration of the wealth of aspiration ever possessed by the youth of our land in the wonderful and mighty example given us by young LINCOLN as he fought the battles of early manhood. In all history there is no parallel to the greatness that came from such lowliness, save in the life of our Redeemer. No one could have had a more humble birth than LINCOLN; no one could have had a more obscure childhood; no one could have had such early struggles of body,

## *Homestead of Abraham Lincoln*

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mind, and soul as did the LINCOLN who afterwards became one of the most illustrious characters of all the ages.

Every monument and temple and highway dedicated to his name bears witness to his nature, his character, his courage, and his achievements. His life path, began in such simplicity, merged into a bravery that knew no disheartening and that carried him to sublime heights of glory. We do well, then, to continue to honor him and to keep fresh the memory of the various stages of his life's progress from birth to the grave.

By industry and honesty, through hardship and suffering, in peace and in war, ABRAHAM LINCOLN made for himself and for us the most glorious pattern of all humanity. His birthplace will now, more than ever, become a mecca of American youth and their elders, and we can rejoice, indeed, that in the wisdom of Providence there has been given us for example and recital such illustration of the possibilities of attainment from poverty and lowliness. With LINCOLN as a guide there should be no failure, no discouragement, no giving up of purpose and attempt. All can not reach the same heights, but all can, as LINCOLN did, try for the best that opportunity, diligence, and undaunted zeal afford. He was given to us not only for the performance of his tasks, not only for the results of his wondrous mind, but for the influence that must ever come from such an example of all that goes to make useful citizens, masterful men, and helpful comrades. In every element that goes toward the molding of the highest and best characteristics that serve in the mightiest purposes of life, LINCOLN will ever stand out clear and distinct, not only as a foremost American but as a leader of all humanity.

Our eulogies and tributes, our memories and monuments, can never repay our debt to ABRAHAM LINCOLN. But they do and will serve to keep first in the minds and hearts of our people his sweet and tender nature, his sturdy, rugged will, his persistent and successful struggles, and the splendid example to each and all of us who love to turn to his life work and learn a devotion to duty and right that can well be emulated by all.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Chairman, 10 minutes.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Fess] is recognized for 10 minutes.



## REMARKS BY MR. FESS, OF OHIO

Mr. Chairman, there is no sentiment that could stir the hearts of America more than a sentiment in honor of the memory of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and I know of no occasion when that sentiment expressed would be more appropriate than upon the occasion of the offer of this property as a gift to the National Government, to care for it.

Some men place themselves in history by what they say, others by what they do, and still a few others by what they both say and do. I have thought that the author of "Sartor Resartus" never need to have done anything to have placed himself in history. The same might be said of the author of the "Pickwick Papers," or of the author of "Julius Cæsar," and the "Merchant of Venice." Then, on the other hand, a man who has accomplished what such men as Edison have done would never need to add to his accomplishments by anything that he might say, for he would be remembered, not by what he said, but by what he did.

But in the case of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, he fixes his place in history by what he has said and also by what he has done. The man who said "A house divided against itself can not stand," probably said what would fix for him a permanent place in history; or "Broken by it I, too, may be, but bow to it I never will," that would also have given him a place in history; or when he said "Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away," or when he said "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us go on with this work," he uttered statements that would permanently fix his place in history. These are but few of many that might be recalled, any one of which is significant in historical meaning. But when we add to those beautiful deliverances some things that he did, we have additional grounds for assigning him a great place in history.



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Our Capital City of Washington will always be remembered as the place of his greatest utterances and his greatest deeds. The sixties will be the time to which the historian will hark back for LINCOLN's achievements. History will deal most widely with him as the great President, the war President. Emancipation will be recorded as his greatest victory for human rights. The preservation of the Union must be written down as his crowning glory. But we to-day will turn back in our mind, away from the Capitol at Washington, away from the sixties in time, away from civilization as we knew it in the city and in the older countries, to the realm of the pioneer, to the State of Kentucky, that had only recently been settled. We turn away from the time and place of his notable utterances and famous achievements to the then unknown western country. We will think not so much to-day of the distinguished citizen as of the babe in the State of Kentucky; not so much of the head of the grandest Republic on earth as of the child of the wilderness; not so much of the famous emancipator as of the boy stricken with poverty; not so much of the preserver of the Union as of the one with universal inspiration to every boy and girl of America. We are looking from here, the seat of power and the arena of influence, back to those days of sorrow and impotence; and if to-day we could transplant ourselves back in Kentucky to the year of 1809 and had the vision to peer into the future so as to see the road that he traveled, what a vision of opportunity would open to us.

Mr. Chairman and fellow Members of the House, I think it is a beautiful occasion that while we are concerned about his achievements for humanity we here and now choose for a moment to dwell upon those early days, that we fix his beginning as well as emphasize his ending, and instead of thinking too frequently of the White House which he occupied, think more often of the log cabin in which he was born. It is the boyhood time rather than the manhood that appeals to us to-day.

Here is a proposition that gives us the opportunity to dwell upon the childhood, upon the poverty-stricken family; it has to do with his birthplace, where he lived the first seven years of his life, the farm over which his parents trod and on which



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they labored; and I know of no picture so touching as when the little family of four left this home and started for the Ohio River, which they crossed and went beyond 17 miles, there, together—the father, the mother, the little brother, and the sister, two years his elder—built the little cabin in the woods with their own hands, a cabin of but three sides, in which they dwelt that first year. This picture of privation loses its sting in the wonderful years of opportunity soon to open to the boy of that small group.

It is to those early days that our hearts naturally hark back at this time when there is here presented by our colleague, a distinguished son of Kentucky, the Representative of the district in which is located his birthplace, this opportunity to receive this gift. As a Member of this Congress, I desire to offer my vote of congratulation and gratitude to the State that gave the Nation its LINCOLN and which now proposes to donate to it his birthplace as a perpetual memorial to his memory. This contribution, not so much from the State as the people in the State, is by this proposed resolution the most recent effort to make it possible that the Nation itself might preserve the beginnings of the life of America's greatest citizen.

I look upon him as the first, the last, the best, the greatest in comprehension, the broadest in statesmanship, the sweetest in disposition, and the deepest in humanity of all this western world. And while history will care for his memory, and while, in the words of Stanton, his great Secretary, "he now belongs to the ages," it is a beautiful thing for this Congress to do what will prevent our forgetting his beginnings. His ending in being a great statesman will always be commemorated. His career is secure. His achievements are common knowledge. Their brilliancy must not blind us to the unpromising beginnings. This proposition will connect his greatness as he left us with the simple beginning of his life and will help to refresh the future generations with the inspiration of American opportunity. For that reason I want to speak my favor of the reception of this gift by those whose hearts are filled with gratitude toward the memory of this great man. [Prolonged applause.]



## REMARKS BY MR. CLARK, OF FLORIDA

Mr. Chairman, it was with a great deal of pleasure that I voted in the Committee on the Library to report this bill favorably to the House, and I want to state that it was an absolutely unanimous report.

We are now constructing within the city of Washington a great memorial to the memory of Mr. LINCOLN. Out in Illinois—at Springfield, the capital of the State—stands a great monument to his memory. It is proposed by this bill to preserve for future generations the place of his birth. The honor to be done this great man would not be complete, it seems to me, without some such action as this. I am glad that this bill is here, and trust that there will be an absolutely unanimous vote for it. I want to say that it augurs well for this great Republic that the man who introduced this bill, who has been furthering its progress before the committee and upon this floor [Mr. Johnson of Kentucky], is the son of the man who raised the first Confederate flag that fluttered in the breezes of Kentucky. [Applause.] This action bespeaks more emphatically and more strongly than any language could the fact that we are an absolutely united people, under one flag, with one country, and all of us loving to do honor to the memory of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. [Applause.]

Mr. Chairman, I now yield 10 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. Eagle]. [Applause.]



## REMARKS BY MR. EAGLE, OF TEXAS

Mr. Chairman, it will afford me sincere pleasure to vote for this measure, by which the United States will accept a deed of gift for the land upon which and the humble log cabin in Kentucky in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born.

All of my life I have lived in the far South. All of my life I have heard and shared those sentiments of tenderness, of devotion, and of reverence which all of my people feel for the heroes of the "Lost Cause." That sentiment which has more profoundly touched my spirituality, in pathos and in tenderness, than any other sentiment has been the beautiful devotion of the thinning ranks of the Confederate armies and of their families and descendants, for the memory of the time when they risked life, fortune, and everything that life holds dear, excepting honor and their sense of duty for a cause that went down honorably in gloom and defeat upon the field of war. And yet throughout my blessed Southland everywhere, among the noble men and glorious women who make up that chivalric and beautiful civilization, never in my life have I heard any sentiment except one of admiration and sympathy for the martyred ABRAHAM LINCOLN. [Applause.]

It is a happy occasion of rejoicing that no longer, as in the days of our fathers, is there any estrangement or any bitterness. I rejoice with men in this Chamber from every section of this glorious Union that now there is peace not only in fact but mutual sympathy and fellowship as well, and that in the future there will be no patriotism limited alone to North or South or East or West, and that everywhere we feel the same common devotion to the same flag and the same aspiration for the glory of a common country. [Applause.]

Many years after the Civil War, when Jefferson Davis had been denied citizenship because as President of the fallen Confederacy he had been but the spokesman and chosen leader for many millions of people, when he had never once opened his

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month to speak in public and had during the 20 years after the war never once written or said publicly or privately one word of bitterness concerning that tragic time, a meeting was held in his honor in Jackson, Miss., where a veteran of the lost cause, upon either side of the tottering, venerable, and beloved old man, helped him up the steps of the capitol in the midst of a throng of tens of thousands of men, women, and children who held his name in veneration. They said, "Mr. Davis, at least once before you pass away let your people hear your voice again." For once he broke his silence, and he said in substance simply this: "My friends, I am legally an alien in the land of my birth, but I thank God that I yet live in the affectionate hearts of my devoted countrymen."

It was a scene the like of which rarely has been witnessed upon this earth, where men and women and little children by the thousands wept as if their hearts would break. Throughout the years of his life after the war Jefferson Davis was everywhere in the South treated with veneration. When, in death, his body was conveyed to its final resting place in Richmond, the people gathered along the route at the farms, villages, and cities, and, without flags or cannon for salute, still paid him reverence with silent forms, bared heads, and eyes dimmed with tears. And when you men of the North come to realize that a people as tremendous in their emotional nature, as intensely convinced in their judgment as the southern people in their mass were convinced that they were right, can yet with a loyalty undivided remain happy and contented and patriotic citizens of a reunited country, contributing the best there is in them to a common cause, and can without division pay affection and devotion and admiration and reverence to the martyred President, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, who led the other side of that controversy, you and your people should always have respect and affection for our glorious southern people and civilization. [Applause.]

I believe that in all history the two lives which, written upon paper or recited as tradition, excite the most interest are Napoleon Bonaparte and ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Since I was a little boy, born and reared over in the backwoods of Kentucky,

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and since as a young man of 17 I moved out to Texas, there has never been a time when the life and the story and the tragedy, the pathos and the humor of ABRAHAM LINCOLN have not fascinated me. [Applause.] As the years come and go, and more and more clearly men are able properly to estimate his mind and character, the name and fame of ABRAHAM LINCOLN will be more and more secure in that sacred hall of world fame where only the towering figures of history dwell. [Applause.] And in the Nation he helped so largely to preserve, now the blessed heritage of ourselves and our children and our children's children, his great spirit will always live as an inspiration to guide its life toward that noble destiny of freedom and happiness which was the dream of our fathers when they set it upon its noble career. [Long-continued applause.]

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Rainey].





## REMARKS BY MR. RAINEY, OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Chairman, I am glad to have the opportunity to vote for this bill. It is appropriate that the birthplace of ABRAHAM LINCOLN in a Southern State shall be preserved by the National Government for all time to come. The long journey the boy LINCOLN undertook when he left this Kentucky farm ended finally at the village of New Salem, Ill., in the congressional district I have the honor now to represent. To the boy LINCOLN and to those who surrounded him and influenced his early career there came in the beginning of the last century the call which came to the South and to the East alike, the call of the West.

To the West, to the West, to the land of the free,  
Where the great Mississippi rolls down to the sea,  
Where a man is a man if he is willing to toil,  
And the humblest may share in the fruits of the soil.

Following this call of the West, LINCOLN finally, after years of travel, in the early part of the year 1830 reached the frontier village of New Salem, on the Sangamon River, and he spent there the formative years of his life. The village disappeared long ago, but some time I hope to see established on the beautiful bluff along the river, where New Salem stood, another national park, and I hope to see a real LINCOLN highway following the route he took, connecting the place of his birth, in the State of Kentucky, with the spot where he spent the formative years of his life, in the State of Illinois, and where his great career commenced.

At the time the call of the West came to the boy LINCOLN the call of the West reached another boy living under the shadow of the spire of the village church in the village of Brandon, Vt., and a little while later Douglas started for the Illinois country. He came down the rivers and canals in flat boats, through the long forest avenues in ox carts, pursuing the same method of travel that LINCOLN pursued. And three years after the arrival of LINCOLN at New Salem, Douglas reached the frontier village of Winchester, 20 miles away in Illinois, also in the con-

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proposed Lincoln was I have the honor to represent. And then separated by an miles of woodland, these two young men spent the formative years of their lives. One of them, frail of nature, went to northern's first taught school and studied law in the village of Winchester the other robust of body, settled in a country store, conducted the village post office, taught the Chicago Green Boys, and studied law at the same time in the village of New Salem.

The strangely parallel career of these two young men commenced at this time. They were in the Legislature of Illinois at the same time. They were admitted to practice law at the same time. Lincoln's law partner was a candidate against Douglas for Congress. Lincoln would have been the candidate were it not for this fact. Both served in Congress at the same time, Lincoln following Douglas to this body. Douglas was promoted to the Senate and acquired an international reputation. Lincoln served only one term and, discouraged, returned again to private life and to the practice of the law. He remained in the practice of the law until 1858, when the strangely parallel career of these two great leaders of men commenced again.

They were both opposing candidates for the United States Senate in the State of Illinois, representing different parties, and together canvassed the entire State. Their debates will remain in the history of debates of this character famous as long as the English language is spoken. But the result of that campaign was again discouraging to Lincoln. The great Douglas was triumphantly elected.

Two years later they were opposing candidates for the Presidency. The result of that campaign left the towering form of Lincoln standing alone on the horizon. One a member of the Southern, became the leader of the party which was opposed to the South. The other a Puritan of Puritans, became the leader of the party which found its greatest strength in the South. They were both loyal to the Union until the very last. One of them died just as the guns rang out along the longest battle line the world had ever known. The other died just at the close of that long War between the States.

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In the city of Springfield, Ill., a granite column, the granite coming from the State where Douglas was born, marks the spot where LINCOLN lies. In the city of Chicago, where the waters of Lake Michigan ripple on the shore, a white marble column marks the spot where Douglas lies. Some day we can honor Douglas in this country without detracting anything from the position LINCOLN occupies and must always occupy. They will rank throughout time as two of our greatest citizens and statesmen. [Applause.]

Mr. CLARK of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Crisp].



## REMARKS BY MR. CRISP, OF GEORGIA

Mr. Chairman, as a southern man and the son of a southern soldier, I simply desire to avail myself of this opportunity to express my pleasure in having an opportunity to vote for this bill. The district I have the honor to represent lies away down South in Dixie, and I know my people entertain and cherish for President LINCOLN the greatest admiration and kindest feeling. My father was himself a Confederate soldier, and he has said to me on many occasions that the worst thing that ever happened for the South was when President LINCOLN was assassinated.

Before the war Gen. Cobb, of Georgia, was at one time Speaker of this House, and he was also Secretary of the Treasury. He was a general in the Confederate Army. He has a son, a probate judge, in my county, who was on his father's staff in the Confederate Army. I have in my office a short communication sent me by Judge Cobb eulogizing President LINCOLN, the article also giving his father's views and opinion on the assassination of President LINCOLN. I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the Record by inserting the article.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Georgia asks unanimous consent to extend his remarks in the Record in the manner stated. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

The article is as follows:

EDITOR TIMES-RECORDER:

The coming of the governor, his staff, members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and other distinguished citizens of Illinois to unveil the monument to their soldier dead at Andersonville brings up memories of the past connected with a man from their State whom they loved and honored and are proud to claim as having come from Illinois; and it seems proper that these memories should be given some public expression at this time.

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I refer to ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Although he wore no handsome uniform with epaulets and gold braid, was he not a soldier? He was Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. Forty-seven years ago, in April, 1865, my father, Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanded the Confederate forces of the department of Georgia. I was a member of his military staff, and was standing near him one day when he received an official telegram. When he read it his face turned as white as a sheet, and throwing up both hands he exclaimed, "My God! Lincoln has been assassinated; this is the greatest calamity that could have befallen our people." How true were his words and prediction time has too fully proven.

It is not surprising that the assassination of LINCOLN inflamed the northern heart and created bitterness against the southern people at that critical period, and gave the opportunity to the extreme fanatical element of the North to shape the policy of the Government in dealing with the Southern States after the surrender of Lee's and Johnston's armies. And this brings us to consider what might have been.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN was a great, good, and wise man, with a big, loving heart. He always held that the Southern States were never out of the Union. He had the love, confidence, and respect of his people, and if he had lived his policies would have been carried out—a request from him to the Southern States to elect their Senators and Representatives, send them to Washington, and again become a part of a reunited Union of sovereign and independent States. We would not have gone through the farce of reconstructing what he claimed had never been divided.

We would not have had the manacling of Jefferson Davis, thereby wringing the heart of a great and brave people by putting this humiliation on their chieftain, whom they all loved, honored, and admired, when they were helpless to protect or defend him. The Southern people would not have had to go through the trying, expensive, and humiliating times of so-called "reconstruction." The Freedman's Bureau and its antitwin, the Ku Klux Klan, would never have been heard of, and the dove of peace with the olive branch of brotherly love nearly 50 years after would not still be hovering in midair, wanting to proclaim—what all good and true men in this entire Nation earnestly wish and pray for—a united and loyal people, knowing no North, no South, no East, no West.

JOHN ADDISON COBB.

The SPEAKER. This is Calendar Wednesday, and the unfinished business is the bill (H. R. 8351) to accept a deed of gift or conveyance from the Lincoln Farm Association, a corporation, to the United States of America of land near the town of Hodgenville, county of Larue, State of Kentucky, embracing the homestead of ABRAHAM LINCOLN and the log cabin in which he was born, together with the memorial hall inclosing the same

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and further, to accept an assignment or transfer of an endowment fund of \$50,000 in relation thereto.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that in addition to the time allowed under the rule for general debate, one hour be added, one half to be controlled by the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. McKinley] and the other half by myself.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Florida asks unanimous consent that the general debate on the bill H. R. 8351 be extended to three hours, one half to be controlled by himself and the other half by the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. McKinley]. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The House will automatically resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill.

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill H. R. 8351, with Mr. Barnhart in the chair.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I believe when the committee rose on last Wednesday I had 15 minutes remaining?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman had 18 minutes remaining.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield five minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Foster].







### REMARKS BY MR. FOSTER, OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Chairman, I am very glad to support this bill, which provides for the acquiring by the Federal Government the birthplace of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. If this bill becomes a law, it will forever preserve to the people of the United States the birthplace of this illustrious and greatly beloved man who stood not only for the preservation of the free institutions of our own country but was an example for all the world. His birthplace was a log cabin and his parents were humble though respectable people. His useful and honorable life well demonstrates to the world what a man may accomplish for himself in this country by building up character, integrity, and unselfish work in the interests of the people. Mr. LINCOLN did not have the opportunity of an education in any great college or university but he did learn the value of character, the principle of fair dealing, and recognized the rights of humanity. He came from Kentucky to Indiana and then to Illinois at an early age and followed surveying, was postmaster and a village merchant in New Salem, Menard County. He studied law, was admitted to the bar, and practiced his chosen profession, going from court to court, or, as it was known in that early day, by riding the circuit. Many of those with whom he was associated in early life and practiced law with him became famous as lawyers and occupied responsible places, not only in Illinois, but in the Nation. Nearly all of the associates of ABRAHAM LINCOLN in Illinois at that early time have passed away. There is, however, in this House one who knew Lincoln, practiced law with him as a young man on the circuit in the eastern part of the State along the Wabash River. I refer to Hon. Joseph G. Cannon, ex-Speaker and at present a Member of this House.

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Mr. Cannon also had the distinction of being present at one of the great joint debates which took place between LINCOLN and Douglas, at Charleston, Ill., in 1858. These debates between these intellectual giants will never be forgotten by the people of Illinois, and each spot where these men met to discuss the great issues then before the people has been carefully marked, that they might be preserved throughout all time. Mr. LINCOLN was a member of the Illinois Legislature in 1836 and 1837, which met in the city of Vandalia. The old statehouse is still there and now used as a courthouse. Among those who served with him in that legislature and afterwards became distinguished were Stephen A. Douglas, James Shields, Archy Williams, Ninian Edwards, John J. Hardin, Jesse K. Dubois, John A. McClelland, and Usher F. Linder, and others that might be mentioned. He also served in the legislature of 1838-1840. Mr. LINCOLN did not specially distinguish himself during his term of service in the legislature, but did take an active interest in local affairs in the State. He afterwards became a Member of Congress, serving one term in the House of Representatives.

The stirring times which brought on the LINCOLN-Douglas debates in 1858 throughout the State of Illinois, in which they held joint discussions in every congressional district of the State, developed great interest in the questions of that time, which then divided the North and South, and made Mr. LINCOLN famous throughout the Nation and had much to do with making him President of the United States. Mr. LINCOLN was a remarkable man in the fact that he never seemed to hold revenge or resentment against a man in the world. His kindly disposition toward those who differed with him in what he believed to be right was one of the strong characteristics of his nature. Many harsh and unkind things were said about Mr. LINCOLN as a public man, and he was severely criticized in his public acts as President, but with all the abuse which was heaped upon him it did not cause him to return this ill treatment or say any unkind things. No President of our country ever suffered more anxiety in regard to the welfare of the Nation than he,

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and no one ever bore it with greater fortitude. When we read of his life and the many slanderous things said of him one sometimes wonders how he was ever able to bear up under it all. It seems that our Presidents must many times remain silent during severe criticism. Theirs is the welfare of the Nation, and they have a duty to perform as its Chief Executive and must not turn from the right as they see it, however much they may be criticized. People are often too prone to criticize a President for partisan purposes; not only was this the case in LINCOLN's time, but down to the present. LINCOLN did not hesitate to change his mind whenever he was convinced it was for the best interest of the country to do so, but every time he did so he was abused for it. He was personally abused, yet all this criticism failed to change his nature, but he went forward determined to perform his duty as he saw it. He did not spend his time abusing those who indulged in abuse of him, but went about his work determined, as he said—

With malice toward none and charity for all to do the right as God gives us the power to see the right.

His chief desire was to preserve the Union, that our country might be united and the flag once more be the emblem of liberty for all the people in every part of this Republic. His solicitude for the welfare of the individual soldier was many times demonstrated during those long four years by his kindness, and his sympathy and encouragement to those who were unfortunate in losing their relatives and friends in the Army was well known to all. His memorable speech at Gettysburg will live as long as time lasts as one of the greatest ever delivered in all the history of the world. His second inaugural address showed in every word his determination to prosecute the war to a successful conclusion and save the Union, and our duty when the battle was over to care for those who fought for our country, but to forgive those who fought on the other side. He recognized they were our brothers and our own people, and if this country was to again be united we must treat them as such. They fought for what they believed right, and when the surrender at Appo-

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mattox took place the Old Flag was again acknowledged as the emblem of peace and liberty, and we can all say—

Your flag and our flag,  
And how it floats to-day  
O'er your land and my land  
And half the world away.  
Blood red and rose red,  
Its stripes forever gleam;  
Snow white and soul white,  
The good forefathers' dream.  
Sky blue and true blue,  
With stars that beam aright;  
A gloried guidon of the day,  
A shelter through the night.  
Your flag and my flag—  
Oh, how much it holds  
Your heart and my heart  
Secure within its folds.  
Your heart and my heart  
Beat quicker at the sight;  
Sun kissed and wind tossed,  
The red and blue and white.  
The one flag! The great flag!  
The flag for me and you!  
Glorified, all else beside,  
The red and white and blue.

It was unfortunate for the North, but more especially for the South, that he should have been taken away at a time when his service was so much needed in reconstructing that devastated portion of our country which had suffered the ravages of war. Had he lived, it is believed that the unfortunate condition which resulted after the close of the war would never have taken place. He held no enmity to the South, but it was believed his love and solicitude for the people there was such that the outrages committed after peace was declared would never have taken place had he been permitted to serve out his term and give his assistance to the people in rebuilding their homes and country. To-day our country is happy, indeed, in the knowledge that we had an ABRAHAM LINCOLN during those

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trying times. The people of Illinois are proud that they furnished to this country and to all the world an ABRAHAM LINCOLN who preserved this Union that they who follow after him might enjoy these blessings of a happy and a united country and that our country will be a beacon light to all the world as a land of liberty. Let us preserve these blessings to all our people. We can not be true to the flag unless we are true to the principles for which the flag stands. We are all thankful that there is no sectional feeling within our borders and the bitterness of 1861 and 1865 is gone, and that men meet without sectional quarrel and only with kindly feeling to each other. We thank God that upon this floor those from the South are here to speak in praise of LINCOLN. They had their heroes in battle whom they praise. Why should they not? Shall they be criticized for doing so? Their loved ones fought for the cause they believed just, and many lost their lives on the battle field. The example of the life and character of ABRAHAM LINCOLN is an inspiration to every individual to put forth his best efforts for his country. Times may come when people take sides upon great questions and contend for what they conceive to be the best, and it is right that such should be the case with every true American. With such questions settled by the majority, they acquiesce in what is best for the greatest number. In no other way can our Republic be preserved. We should emulate the life and character of this illustrious martyr that we, too, may render some valuable service to our country. Let us not endeavor to take from society in this world without giving something in return. With rights and privileges come responsibility. We should do our part. Let us perform our work so that it may be said of us, "We have fought a good fight and have kept the faith."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN is gone, but the inspiration of his life will live forever. [Applause.]

Mr. McKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he desires to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Cannon]. [Applause.]





## REMARKS BY JOSEPH G. CANNON, OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Chairman, LINCOLN was born in Kentucky, if I recollect right, on the 12th day of February, 1809. No one could have dreamed what his future would be. They have found the log cabin where he was born, the place upon which it stood, the farm upon which his father failed to make a living, and it has been purchased and endowed with \$50,000 and is now tendered to the Government of the United States. It is meet and proper in my judgment that this bill should pass. We are building a great memorial here in the city of Washington to LINCOLN, and I am glad of it, as is everyone, but that memorial, located just beyond the Washington Monument, marks his service as a lawyer, as a statesman, as President. That memorial is not so high as the Washington Monument, but it is broader and longer. It is not dwarfed by the Washington Monument, nor by the Capitol, nor should it be. But, after all, if he had not been born he would not have been President. I am not a believer in special providences, but if I were I would say that he was born with a mission. Mr. Chairman, there is an old Greek myth that one of the tasks of Hercules was to meet and overcome Antaeus.

He ascertained that the secret of Antaeus's strength was that every time he touched the earth his strength was renewed. So, placing his arms about him, he held him up in the air until he died for the want of sustenance. The Greek myths, many of them, tell the story of strength renewed by touching the earth. We all understand that in this country, and, in fact, in all countries, in the main the men who lead in achievements are of the generation or near to a generation that has touched the earth. [Applause.]

The genesis of LINCOLN was a happy one. The family moved over into Indiana on the way to Illinois. They halted first in Indiana, and then settled in Illinois, in the county of Coles, and then over in the county of Menard. He was a boatman, then a

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surveyor, a merchant, soon became a lawyer, and a successful one, and went to the legislature. He had everything in common with the people of the borderland. Politician as well as lawyer, though not a reformer, he was a partisan. He was a member of the Whig Party, and one of his principal opponents at the bar in the early days was Mr. Douglas. Douglas forged ahead, came to the House of Representatives, was elected and reelected to the Senate of the United States, and became the leader of his party, being a wonderfully strong man.

LINCOLN was ambitious. He possessed a law practice that would not be counted lucrative now, although it abounded in a large number of cases. If fees had been paid then of the size of the fees now, with the amount now involved, he would have had a wonderful income. Judge Davis, upon whose circuit he practiced, told me that the largest fee which Mr. LINCOLN ever received was \$5,000, in a litigation for the Illinois Central Railway, touching the 7 per cent of the gross earnings that went into the treasury of the State and freeing the railway from taxation. Mr. LINCOLN was successful for his client, and held his breath and charged \$5,000, but had to sue the corporation to make it pay. Mr. Davis, afterwards justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, told me that Mr. LINCOLN never before had received such a fee, and rarely as much in the aggregate as \$5,000 a year.

He had his equipment for his afterlife work. Born in Kentucky, he came to Illinois, which was settled in the central and southern portions from Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia principally. For a long time settlements were sparse in the northern part of the State, although there was a considerable settlement there from the East. But the early settlements were mostly from the Southland. There came some Democrats and some Whigs, about evenly divided in politics, and they used to say when they spoke of the Kentuckians—Whigs, Democrats, strong partisans—that the Kentuckian took his politics like he did his whisky, namely, straight. And so it was.

Mr. LINCOLN became a candidate for the Senate after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill. In 1858 Mr. Douglas



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being a candidate to succeed himself, he was Mr. LINCOLN'S opponent; and this was the issue, in substance: LINCOLN was not an abolitionist; nor was Douglas, for that matter. Douglas was for squatter sovereignty; that is to say, LINCOLN took the position that slavery was not national; that it was sectional, and that a State when it came in, or even after it came in, could legalize slavery, but that in the national domain there was no law to protect the property where it was invested in the slave, the South taking the position that it was property, and therefore it was entitled to protection in the national domain.

Mr. Douglas said that he would be, to a certain extent, neutral. Said he, "We will let the Territorial legislature, the people of the Territory, determine whether slavery shall exist in that Territory or not, prior to its admission as a State, if it be admitted as a State afterwards. And the contest was a fierce one. The Whig Party was divided in twain; the Democratic Party in the North was divided in twain; and there never was, I dare say, in all the history of the country such a campaign as was made by Mr. LINCOLN and Mr. Douglas. LINCOLN held his own, but Douglas had a national reputation. LINCOLN'S reputation was as a lawyer in the Middle West, north of the Ohio River. This campaign brought him to public notice because he could hold his own with the "Little Giant." It was the foundation which made him a candidate for the Presidency and which resulted in his election. Of all men living, in my judgment there was no man in the United States who was so well equipped from his early life to be President as ABRAHAM LINCOLN. [Applause.]

My colleague, Dr. Foster, said that I had known LINCOLN and attended the LINCOLN-Douglas debates in 1858. That is true in a measure. As a young man I met LINCOLN on a number of occasions—on the ninth judicial circuit of Illinois, at the Illinois convention which made him the candidate of the State for President, and during that memorable campaign in 1860. I attended the debate between LINCOLN and Douglas at Charleston, Ill., in September, 1858. The prairies of central Illinois were vacant that day, for all the people went to Charleston to hear the two champions in the fourth debate. They were

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pretty equally divided in their loyalty to the two men, and in that section at that time men were virile in their partisanship. There were banners and bands, and the little town was overrun with people from far and near. The meeting was held on the fair grounds, and each party had its chairman to welcome its leader and preside together.

It was at that meeting that LINCOLN took advantage of Douglas to make the Democratic chairman testify against him. The Hon. O. B. Ficklin, a former Representative in Congress, was the Democratic chairman and had welcomed Douglas and introduced him to the audience. In that speech Douglas repeated his charge that LINCOLN had refused to support the administration's conduct of the War with Mexico. LINCOLN had denied this charge at Freeport and at Jonesboro, but when it was repeated at Charleston he showed that old human trait of "getting even." When he referred to the charge and his former denials, he whirled about, reached out his long left arm, and, taking Chairman Ficklin by the collar, yanked him out of his chair and to the front of the platform, much as an old-fashioned schoolmaster brought out a bad boy to be trounced. The crowd, anticipating a fight, became excited, but LINCOLN remarked: "I am not going to hurt Col. Ficklin; I only call him as a witness. Now, the colonel and I were in Congress together, and I want him to tell the whole truth about this Mexican business." Col. Ficklin was in an embarrassing place; he told the audience that he was the friend of both Douglas and LINCOLN and did not want to be a party to the dispute, but that LINCOLN had voted just as he did for the supplies for the Army in Mexico, though LINCOLN had voted for the Ashmun amendment, declaring that the President had exercised unconstitutional powers in beginning the war. It was LINCOLN, the lawyer on the circuit, compelling the witness for the prosecution to testify for the defense.

The Republicans were wild with enthusiasm and the Democrats disappointed over the incident, but there was no further disturbance, and the adroitness of LINCOLN disposed of the charge that he had been disloyal to the Army in refusing to vote the necessary supplies to the troops in Mexico. LINCOLN lost in that senatorial contest, but it made him the Republican

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leader in 1860, as it made impossible the election of Douglas to the Presidency by dividing his party on the slavery question.

LINCOLN did not suit the extreme North, because in the main it was extremely radical, with the Garrisons and the Phillipses, and many others. Of course, he did not suit the extreme South, because there too was radicalism; but when you came to Missouri and Kentucky and portions of Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Maryland, there was a division almost half-and-half. They were virile men. The Caucasian race is virile, and where they honestly have convictions you know that they are ready to fight for them. LINCOLN knew how far he could go in that great contest with our arms, and whether he could succeed or not, by being able to keep his hand upon the public pulse on the very stage where the war was principally conducted, namely, in the borderland. He could place his hand upon his heart beats, shut his eyes, put the question to himself, and determine what it was necessary to do and say, and receive the support not only of the Republicans, but the Democrats in the main, strong partisans as they were. And it was necessary to have a substantial vote. We all know what happened in Missouri. In Kentucky the Kentuckians boast that their quota was full in both armies, which was true, and so on along the borderland. There were specks of war at times in Illinois and in Indiana. Battles were fought, one or two in the district that I now represent, in the circuit upon which LINCOLN traveled, between men, our kind of men, our blood—Americans.

In the meantime the radicals in the North were not satisfied. They said he went too slow. Ministers in the pulpit, many of them, openly said he was not performing his duty. There was an abolition sentiment in the North; the farther north you got the stronger the abolition sentiment. It was not so strong in the borderland as it was in New England and in New York and in northern Pennsylvania and northern Ohio. Delegations of preachers came to see him and put it up to him: "Why don't you free the slaves?" They said the Lord had sent them. He gave them this answer, in substance: "It seems to me if the Lord had a communication to make to me, I being chiefly responsible as leader, He would give it to me direct." [Laughter.]

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Friends of his grew lukewarm. I read the weekly New York Tribune, the only real newspaper we had in our township. It came in—two or three hundred copies—at a dollar a year. When I was a boy it was a great champion of protection and bore testimony against slavery—a radical. And yet when the real trouble came Horace Greeley in the Tribune said, "Let the erring sisters go in peace," and quarreled with LINCOLN, because LINCOLN would not help contribute to that end. And so it was all along the line.

By the by, will you bear with me? I do not want to weary you—

SEVERAL MEMBERS. Go on!

Mr. CANNON. For the first two years of the war the Union Army did not have great success. In the fullness of time came Vicksburg and Gettysburg and victory. People took heart. Two million two hundred thousand men, most of them enlisted, by that time were trained. We had in our Army more than were in the Confederate Army. We greatly exceeded them in number. We were much better off. We had more of railways than they had. But they were fighting, do not you see, upon their own ground, as France is now fighting. It is easier to defend the hearthstone than it is to conquer the hearthstone. Well, there was much of trouble. People in the North wanted to compromise. In the South they did not want, in considerable number, to compromise. They were fighting for what they conceived to be their rights under the Constitution. [Applause.] LINCOLN, you recollect, in answering one of his letters in 1862, said to Greeley:

If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that.

Strange—he was criticized, especially in the Northland as well as in the Southland. He was reminded that the Constitution guaranteed property in the slaves. He acknowledged it. He said:

I have taken an oath to defend the Constitution; but, he added in his homely way, was it possible to lose the Nation and yet preserve the Constitution? By general law life and limb must be protected, yet often a limb must be amputated to save a life; but a life is never wisely given to save a limb.



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And in the time of war for the preservation of the Union and the preservation of the Constitution, when it became necessary, laws were silent, and in three weeks after the preachers had visited him he gave notice by proclamation, if the States of the South did not return to their allegiance by the 1st of January, as a war measure we would declare the slaves free, and he did.

Now, the partisan papers of the North, including the New York World and the New York Herald and Greeley in the New York Tribune, were firing into him. Greeley was not pleased—and I will tell you about that a little later on, if you will indulge me. Those partisan newspapers did not want to see him re-elected. They attacked him from every angle, fiercely and vigorously, not striking above the belt, but below the belt. No man in my time was abused as he was by the press. But it did not seem to bother him. He did not complain. It was wonderful how the papers commended and patted on the back Fremont, who was our first leader in 1856, and took him up when the radicals, you know, held a convention at Cleveland. The newspapers were full of Fremont's candidacy, and the radicals who were to nominate him did not say much about LINCOLN's political prospects. I sometimes think that history repeats itself when I recollect the action of the newspapers of that time. Well, I will not come nearer speaking of more recent history. [Applause.]

Greeley, editor of the greatest Republican paper of the country up until the beginning of the War for the Union, had a personal grievance against LINCOLN. When the convention met at Chicago, with factional troubles in New York, Thurlow Weed and Seward and that faction prevailed over Greeley, and he could not go to the convention as an original delegate, but he got a proxy from a delegate for Oregon, and he was in the convention and worked for the nomination of LINCOLN. LINCOLN elected, Greeley had the right to believe that he ought to have been in his Cabinet. He began to fight and find fault. The situation grew worse and worse. LINCOLN picked Chase and those who had opposed him in the convention for nomination, including Seward, and put those two in his Cabinet. The great trouble was upon Seward, his Secretary of State, and LINCOLN

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said to Greeley's friends: "We can not take two men from New York; I am pursuing this policy." The politicians did not see as well as the statesmen. Greeley became aggrieved, and they fought all through until 1864 came. I will not take time to tell what he said and what LINCOLN said in reply. It is good reading. You will find it in McPherson's History of the Rebellion.

A MEMBER. Tell that story.

Mr. CANNON. The gentleman says, "Tell that story." The surroundings are not as good as they could be for telling that story—the surroundings are good, you know, but we are all prohibitionists now. [Laughter.] But I will tell that story, if you will indulge me, because it throws a strong light upon LINCOLN's character. LINCOLN was nominated; McClellan was nominated; LINCOLN for the preservation of the Union and the prosecution of the war. And, mind you, you did not, down South, have anything to do with McClellan's nomination. He was nominated by the Democratic North, upon a platform declaring the war a failure and advocating an armistice, that we might preserve the Union by compromise. LINCOLN, in his characteristic way, said, referring to it as reported in conversation, "Suppose we were to try to compromise. We talked about that, and many people tried it before the war began. But can one man make a bargain?"

Well, it looked as if LINCOLN was to have a hard time for reelection. He believed that he ought to be reelected. The Republicans believed that he ought to be. Many Democrats in the North believed that he ought to be; but the campaign was hot.

For four or six years, along about 1878, 1879, and 1880, I had a colleague in the House here by the name of Waldo Hutchins. He was a Democrat at that time, although prior to Greeley's candidacy for the Presidency he had been a Republican. In the Greeley campaign he became a Democrat, voted for Greeley, and then later was elected to Congress as a Democrat. He was a strong, honest, square man, and a truthful man, I have no doubt. He knew Mr. LINCOLN very well. Mr. Hutchins told me that one evening he climbed the long stairway in the Tribune Building, then, I believe, the highest building in New York, and found Greeley in his office, and said, "Mr. Greeley, what's the news?"

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"Oh, nothing, nothing," said Greeley.

After a little conversation Greeley said to Hutchins, "There is a letter I received."

Hutchins said he took the letter and read it, and it was from Mr. LINCOLN's secretary, addressed to Greeley, and it said, "The President instructs me to say that he would like to have an interview with you, and as matters are at present he finds it impossible to get away from Washington. Is it asking too much to ask you to come to Washington?"

The letter was two days old. Said Hutchins to Greeley "Have you answered the letter? Have you been to Washington?" "No," said Greeley.

"Why don't you answer it?"

"Oh, I don't care to."

Hutchins told me that he grabbed the letter and said, "I will take it."

Greeley said, "As you choose."

Mr. Hutchins said he rushed down the stairway and found a hack, and said to the driver, "I will give you three times your fare if you will catch the last boat to Jersey City."

The driver laid on the whip, and Hutchins caught the last boat and caught the train, although it was in motion when he got on board for Washington. Hutchins came to Washington and went to breakfast at the Willard Hotel. Then he went to the White House. The messenger said, "Why, Mr. LINCOLN can not see you now. He is just getting up."

Said Mr. Hutchins, "I must see him."

"Oh, well, you can not see him now. It is impossible."

Said Hutchins, "Take this card to the President"; and he told me, "I scribbled upon my card that I had come in consequence of that letter that his secretary had written to Mr. Greeley."

The messenger came back and said, "The President says to show you up."

"He was dressing, and we talked, and I told him what Greeley had said. LINCOLN said, 'I am glad you came. Greeley has a just grievance from his standpoint against me. He voted for my nomination and advocated my election. He had a right

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to believe that he would be recognized, and he would have been under ordinary conditions, but under the conditions as they then were and now are I could not, performing my duty as President, ask him to be a member of my Cabinet. I believe I shall be reelected. I believe I ought to be. God knows if it were not for the sense of duty that I owe to the people and to civilization I could not be hired to be President. If I am reelected, I believe it will be but a short time until this great struggle will close. Seward is a great man, but of a different faction from Greeley. When this war closes we will have great need for a diplomat at the Court of St. James. We have a long account to settle with Great Britain. Seward has performed great service as Secretary of State. I believe he could perform better service as ambassador to the Court of St. James. By the by, Franklin perhaps was the greatest man that ever lived in this country—philosopher, statesman, scientist. He was Postmaster General under the Confederation.’ ”

Hutchins said, “Yes; so he was.”

LINCOLN said, “Franklin was a printer. Greeley is a printer. Do you know I believe Greeley would make a good Postmaster General. I think I am right in saying that is the position he would rather occupy than any other.”

Hutchins said, “Am I at liberty to say that to Mr. Greeley?”

“Oh, you can say it, but, mind you, I am not making a promise to bind me in the constitution of my Cabinet. I am telling you how I feel toward him personally. I am honest about it.”

Hutchins departed, went to New York on the next train, climbed the stairway again, and repeated the conversation to Mr. Greeley. Greeley said, “Did LINCOLN say that?”

“Yes.”

Without another word Greeley wheeled in his chair, sat at his desk, and for 20 minutes wrote, and then read to Hutchins that greatest of all bugle calls published in the New York Tribune, which I think did much, perhaps more than all the other papers put together, to reelect LINCOLN, lining up the Republican Party from the standpoint of patriotism and the salvation and preservation of the Union.



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Sequel: Said Mr. Hutchins, "The day before Mr. LINCOLN was assassinated I got another letter from his secretary stating that the President desired to meet me, and asking me if I would come to Washington. I left on the next train, the same train that I had taken in September or October before. I arrived in Washington in the morning, and when I got off the train the newsboys were crying that the President was assassinated. I have no doubt on earth but that he called me to Washington to tender through me the Postmaster Generalship to Mr. Greeley."

So Mr. LINCOLN was a politician. He was a partisan, but he had that great common sense as a leader which led him up to the preservation of the Union. Greeley and some of LINCOLN's generals and some members of LINCOLN's Cabinet criticized him. Some members of his Cabinet were perfectly willing to take the whole thing out of his hands and run the Government. He just let them stay. You know they were useful. He went on in the even tenor of his way. I will not go into that further. You all recollect about it who are old enough, and the rest of you have read about it. Nobody regarded LINCOLN as a hero during that great contest. His recognition as of heroic mold came after his death. You know heroes are great fellows. Sometimes the people regard them as heroes, and sometimes they proclaim themselves as heroes. [Laughter.] Let me say to you that that does not apply to one party alone. There are other pebbles on the beach. [Laughter.] With his great good sense, with his feet in the soil, with no collegiate course, God made him, and his associations in youth and manhood had been such that he was enabled to lead and lead successfully.

You remember what George William Curtis said in notifying LINCOLN of his second nomination:

Amid the bitter taunts of eager friends and the fierce denunciation of enemies, now moving too fast for some, now too slow for others, they have seen you throughout this tremendous contest patient, sagacious, faithful, just, leaning upon the heart of the great mass of the people and satisfied to be moved by its mighty pulsations.

By the by, I am reminded of the Gettysburg speech. Edward Everett made a great speech there. Everybody was listening

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to Everett. Nobody knew that LINCOLN's little three-minute speech was a jewel. It was not said to be a jewel until long after he was dead. After it was made the partisan press attacked it. Some of them said it was ridiculous and vulgar. Well, you know how it was in a hot campaign, and the campaign was very hot in 1864 in the Northland. Yet there is not one schoolboy in a hundred in the United States in a high school who knows that Edward Everett made the principal address on that occasion, but I dare say that ninety out of a hundred of the bright-faced boys and girls can repeat LINCOLN's three-minute Gettysburg speech. It is a classic, and will live when you and I are dead and gone and forgotten.

Then take the letter that he wrote to the Irish woman in Boston, who lost four or five sons in defense of the flag. That was a wonderful letter. I had rather have the capacity to write that letter, or to make such a speech if the occasion arose, than to have all the property of all the earth. [Applause.]

Now, I have catch heads here enough to last me a long time, but I have talked too long. [Go on! Go on!] Well, not much.

Listen to one of the radicals during the campaign of 1864. Wendell Phillips was an extreme radical of the North. He said:

If William Lloyd Garrison stood in the President's place I should have no fears. Can I put the same trust in ABRAHAM LINCOLN? In the first place, remember he is a politician, not like Mr. Garrison, a reformer. Politicians are like the foreleg and shoulder of a horse, not an upright bone in the whole column.

[Laughter.]

That which is not itself crooked stands crooked—

[Laughter.]

and but for the beast, could not move. Reformers are like Doric columns. Might may crush them, but can neither bend nor break.

I suppose a reformer has his place. I sometimes think they get pretty thick. They say that their province is to fight with the Almighty, that the Almighty and one are a majority. Well, they have their place. I am not here to abuse them. Nearly all of them are honest, but once in a while one of them is a

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hypocrite, makes his living by being a reformer, but who would think of one of them for a Member of Congress, or Senator, or President. For those offices we want a politician, a man of affairs, a man whose range of vision can cover the whole country, and if necessary the whole world.

LINCOLN was assassinated by a crazy man. Later on Garfield was assassinated, and later on McKinley; and when LINCOLN was assassinated it was the saddest day for the Southland and the Northland. [Applause.] There would have been no mistake made, in my judgment, if LINCOLN had not been assassinated. When the proposition was made to put South Carolina and Virginia together in one military district he said, "No; I want to keep the States separate so far as I can to preserve their autonomy and to help strengthen the Union." [Applause.] But he was assassinated. If he had remained President when your State governments were being formed you would not have had reorganizations that made peons practically of the late slaves, and when that happened then came reconstruction with all the hardships that followed. It was a great loss to the North and a great loss to the South.

I believe the hand that used the weapon to take the life of LINCOLN was inspired by the press, North and South, that denounced Mr. LINCOLN. I believe the same thing is true of Garfield, and the same thing is true of McKinley. I believe in the freedom of the press, but, oh, at times a terrible effort is required to guarantee that freedom when the liberty of the press gets to be the license of the press.

Now, one further word and I will sit down. When I get to talking about LINCOLN in common conversation, I suppose I could talk all day, as many of you and millions of others could throughout the country. Who are the men that have effected civilization in all the days from the Master born in a manger? Who were His disciples, the fishermen? And from the time of His crucifixion down to this time He has grown and grown, and His teachings, notwithstanding the great struggle we are having now among three hundred millions on the other side—His teachings grow more powerful and useful to the human family.

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The men that have been the strongest leaders of the world are men born in the cabins, in humble life, and of humble parentage. A Member referred to Napoleon the other day. Napoleon was of the first generation that we know anything about, and substantially when he died that was the end of the generation, although there is one man who is respectable in ability and a citizen of the United States.

And so you run along. Take it in poetry. Robert Burns, a son of the soil. Robert Burns speaks of the people in his wonderful songs, and, in my judgment, has done more for civil and religious liberty than any man for many, many generations—and I was going to say centuries. [Applause.]

Who was the father of Shakespeare? He had no descendants, so far as I know, and yet his plays will live through all time. And then there were Goldsmith, Whittier, Dickens, Thackeray, Tolstoi, Andrew Jackson, Garfield, Morton, Sherman, Grant, Carnegie, Bell—and I could stand, if you had the patience to listen, and read a list by the hour. The old saying on the Wabash, homely as it was, is true, "It is three generations from shirt sleeves to shirt sleeves." It was true then and true now, and has been true substantially in the whole history of the world.

You know that if you go into New York or into Chicago or the great centers you will find that three out of four men in business who direct the affairs of men were sons of farmers or others who lived in the sweat of their faces, who worked in early life and have become qualified for their subsequent career. Once in a while one of them makes a very great fortune, and if he gets too strong somebody tries to take it away from him, and sometimes succeeds, and we call him a plutocrat; he commenced as a democrat and became a plutocrat. [Laughter.]

By the way, I have for the first time in my life been reading Emerson a little bit, and in his essay on Napoleon he winds up near the close with this statement. Napoleon, you know, became first consul, overran Europe substantially, was then Emperor, then came St. Helena. He was a democrat and ran through all of the stages before he died, but Emerson uses this

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sentence, "The democrat is a young conservative; the conservative is an old democrat; the aristocrat is a democrat ripe and gone to seed." [Laughter.] The first part of this definition applied to LINCOLN, who was thoroughly democratic and also conservative, but never aristocratic. Emerson said of him, "He stood, a heroic figure, in the center of a heroic epoch. He is the true history of the American people in his time." [Great applause.]

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Sherwood].





## REMARKS BY MR. SHERWOOD, OF OHIO

Mr. Chairman, sitting here to-day in this presence I could not help but grow reminiscent listening to the splendid tribute to ABRAHAM LINCOLN by my old friend, Mr. Cannon. That vital historical recital reminded me of the time when we came into the Forty-third Congress together on the first Monday of December, 1873. [Applause.] I believe that Mr. Cannon and myself are the only Members in either branch of Congress now in public life who were Members of that Congress. There were historical characters in that Congress, men called to deal with both ethical and fundamental questions growing out of the Civil War, questions that stirred the blood and commanded the most potent mental endeavor. Just across this aisle sat two intellectual athletes—Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, and S. S. Cox, of Ohio and New York—who continuously measured the strength and potency of their rasping scimitars at close range. Near the seat where now sits our able and alert leader of the minority [Mr. Mann] sat my old Army comrade, James A. Garfield, then chairman of the Appropriations Committee, afterwards President of the United States. Right in front of the Speaker's desk, in his wheeled chair, was Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, late vice president of the Confederate States, a man of intense and powerful intellectuality, a true type of that array of intellectual giants that made both the House and the Senate great forums of debate during and after the war.

James G. Blaine, the idol of his party, was Speaker of the House and the recognized leader. On the Republican side sat 6 representatives of the negro race, just enfranchised, and on the Democratic side 10 or 12 of the battle-scarred veterans of the Confederate Army. I had the honor of a seat between Gen. "Joe" Hawley, of Connecticut, and George Frisbie Hoar, of Massachusetts, the former then famous as a soldier, the latter as the exponent of the highest culture in the domain of civics.

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But lest I be classed as a reminiscient, I will not indulge in reminiscences further. I am not a pessimist. I believe in to-day, I believe in the future, I believe in the better day to come. And if the debates I have listened to in this Congress seem tame and commonplace, it is because no great vital questions to stir men's blood have been under consideration, questions to waken the full force of high intellectual effort. Should a great crisis confront this Congress, I sincerely believe that there is material on this floor, on both sides of this historic Chamber, to equal in forensic power the record of the past. Such a crisis may not be far off. I remember also the first speech of my colleague, Mr. Cannon, made 43 years ago on the floor of this House, and then, as to-day, we all sat up and took notice. [Applause.]

### THE LOG-CABIN MEMORIAL TO LINCOLN

You will all concede that nothing new can be said of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. History and biography and the muse of poetry have been busy with his name and fame for over a half a century, and history has said its last word. It was that crash of cannon shot against the walls of Fort Sumter which started the movement that made the name of ABRAHAM LINCOLN the most sacred heritage of the redeemed Nation. Without the titanic conflict that followed, the name and fame of ABRAHAM LINCOLN might never have inspired a national lyric.

It is not great men who make great epochs of history. It is great epochs that make great men. Had there been no Trojan War there would have been no Homer. Had there been no conflict of the kings in the formative period of English literature there would have been no Shakespeare. Had there been no War of the American Revolution there would have been no George Washington, and had there been no Civil War from 1861 to 1865 there would have been no ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The American people were leading a dull and melancholy life before that awful struggle of arms, but with that crash of cannon shot against the walls of Sumter came a new and inspired life. When the storm burst, the finger of God dropped the plummet into the Dead Sea, and with the overflow came new hopes, new ambitions, and new inspirations. And through-



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out that four years' struggle, the most desperate and long continued of modern wars, the leading hand, the guiding spirit in the camps and courts and capitols of the Nation was ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the President and commander in chief.

I remember on the 4th of November, 1864, we were on a march in Tennessee, a forced march, toward the battle field of Franklin. The Ohio Legislature had passed a law (they had the old ballot system then before we had imported the system from Australia) that the soldiers in the field should vote. The Ohio presidential tickets had been sent to me for my regiment, the One hundred and eleventh Ohio. We were on a forced march the day of the election for President of the United States. We were to start at daylight. Just before daylight I had my horse saddled and rode back 3 miles to the rear and borrowed from our brigade surgeon, Dr. Brewer, an ambulance and a camp kettle. Whenever we rested that day, on that rapid march, the soldiers of my regiment voted in that old camp kettle in the ambulance. We counted the votes at night by the light of the bivouac fires. One-third of my regiment were Democrats, and yet there were only seven votes against ABRAHAM LINCOLN in the whole regiment.

I remember also after the Battles of Franklin and Nashville, and after we had driven Gen. Hood and his army across the Tennessee River, we were placed on transports and carried up the Tennessee and the Ohio to Cincinnati; then across Ohio and Virginia on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to Washington. We reached this city March 3, consigned to an ocean voyage to some point in North Carolina to meet the army of Gen. Sherman coming up the coast from Savannah. ABRAHAM LINCOLN was to be inaugurated the following day, March 4, 1865. I was looking for a war horse in Washington, as my last horse was shot at the Battle of Franklin, but I was determined to see LINCOLN and hear his second inaugural address. I had never seen ABRAHAM LINCOLN. There was a vast crowd on the east front of the Capitol. It seems to me there must have been 20,000, with many hundred boys in blue, and officers in full uniform, including Gen. Joe Hooker. I had on my old war-worn uniform, once a blue uniform, now tarnished with grime

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from the red clay roads of northern Georgia and the sticky mud of west Tennessee. My old slouch hat with a hole burned in the crown, caused by sleeping with my head too close to a bivouac fire, was not a fitting crown for inauguration day, but I worked my way through that vast throng to within 6 feet of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and I heard him deliver his last oration on earth. I heard him say:

Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in; to bind up the Nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.

[Applause.]

Over a half century has passed since that eventful day. I can see LINCOLN now as I saw him then—a tall, spare, gaunt man, with deep lines of care furrowing his cheeks, with inexpressible sadness in his face, the face of a man of many sorrows. A sad face, a strong face, a face radiant with the inspiration of a great soul, as he voiced in prophecy the ultimate destiny of this Nation. As a soldier of the Republic I heard ABRAHAM LINCOLN voice his national ideals in his last message to the American people.

Two million soldiers fought under ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the revered President and Commander in Chief, in the most desperate and longest enduring war of modern times. Over and above the 2,000,000 soldier graves that are, or soon will be, there rises triumphant in the radiant glory of a world-wide beneficence, the prescient prophet of emancipation, the leader in the grandest epoch-making era of all civilization. [Applause.]

Then I recall another scene that I shall never forget. It was the day after the surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox. Our Army was marching up the right bank of the Neuse River, in North Carolina. I saw in the distance a man on horseback, riding a magnificent horse—riding like mad—and as he approached the head of our column it was plainly to be seen that he must have been riding hard, for his horse's flanks were white with foam, his eyes flashed fire, his nostrils red as blood. As he neared our front he shouted at the top of his

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voice, "Lee's whole army has surrendered." Every marching soldier behind a gun voiced the gladness of his heart. The whole Army went wild. That line of march was about 10 miles long, and I could almost hear the last shout of joy away down to the end of the line. That officer was Lieut. Riggs, on the staff of Gen. Schofield, the commander of our Army corps. We were all tired of war, and that was the gladdest day that Army ever saw. It was the proudest day any army ever saw since God created the world. We had fought the good fight, we had kept the faith, and we knew that the war was nearing its end, and that we could again go to our homes and clasp again the angels of our own household. And what a terrible change from universal joy to the deepest gloom followed this gala day. On the 15th of April, 1865, after we had reached the environs of Raleigh, I saddled up my horse to ride into the city. I had to pass through the camps of about 60,000 soldiers. Camps are always noisy. There are always some soldiers who are singing songs, and our Army was always buzzing with cheerful voices. They were all cheerful then, because we were seeing the end of the war. But that morning the camps were as still as the grave. I met a staff officer and inquired, "Why this silence in the camps?" He replied, "President LINCOLN has been assassinated." There was universal mourning in the Army. Every soldier loved and revered ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and that whole camp was as silent as this House in the midst of the prayer of the Chaplain. That is how the Army regarded ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Every soldier loved him as a brother.

Now, as to this log-cabin tribute: We have built many monuments to LINCOLN. We have dedicated many statues in bronze and marble; we have four in the city of Washington. I was under the great dome this morning. I saw Vinnie Ream's marble statue of LINCOLN in the plain clothes of an American citizen; I saw Borglum's representation of the face of LINCOLN, double heroic size. In Judiciary Square there is another figure in marble of LINCOLN, and in Lincoln Park there is a true-to-life figure of LINCOLN in bronze in the act of unshackling a slave. We are building a splendid temple to him

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on the banks of the Potomac. That is all right. But monuments and temples and statues have no emotion, no human sympathy, no voice. But here is LINCOLN's old Kentucky home. Here is the log cabin where he was born. Here is a silent monitor teaching a vital lesson in patriotism. Here is a symbol of hope and cheer to every poor boy struggling against poverty for an honorable career. Here is a Mecca where all the children of the Nation can gather and take courage in the story of a man, born in a rude log cabin, who learned to read books at night in the silent woods by the light of a pine-knot fire, and who became the guiding hand—the leading spirit—in one of the greatest epochs of all history. [Continued applause.]

Mr. McKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield five minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. Smith].

## REMARKS BY MR. SMITH, OF MINNESOTA

Mr. Chairman, under ordinary circumstances, after hearing the able and exceedingly interesting speeches of Hon. Joseph G. Cannon and the Hon. Isaac R. Sherwood and others upon the life and deeds of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, I would not be so presumptuous as to attempt to add anything to what has already been said about "the greatest memory of our earth."

The transfer by the patriotic Commonwealth of Kentucky of the log cabin in which Lincoln was born to the gentle care and protection of the United States is no ordinary occasion.

I never expect to witness a more patriotic and inspiring scene. It is an event that arouses in every American heart a desire to give expression to the love and veneration in which he not only holds the great emancipator but everything connected with his life from childhood to the grave.

From the fullness of the American heart the mouth speaketh of the things that make life worth living; of the things that ennoble and sanctify God's heritage to man.

Would that I had the ability to depict for you my heart's image of ABRAHAM LINCOLN; it would fill you with thanksgiving to Almighty God for having sent in the hour of our country's direst need ABRAHAM LINCOLN—the greatest power for good and the greatest leader of men since Christ—"a Christ in miniature," said Tolstoy.

Filled with such emotions, I know that my generous and patriotic colleagues will bear with me while I in my humble way on this historic day lay a sprig of laurel on the tomb of one of our own kind and generation—the immortal LINCOLN—the friend of man.

Born of humble and illiterate parentage, on Nolan Creek, in a wild and unsettled hickory forest of Kentucky, in this rude cabin—a very strange and unlikely place for the birth of the Nation's saviour. From this lonely home in the wilderness,



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devoid of books, schools, and churches, and even of the stimulus of educated companions, this incomparable child of the forest by sheer force of character advanced step by step in knowledge and statecraft until he reached the highest position in the gift of the greatest Nation on earth. And this, too, at a time when that Nation needed its greatest genius to save it from self-destruction.

These inspiring exercises testify more eloquently than any words of mine how completely he restored the Union as it was before the mighty rebellion, in which he was the matchless leader. To-day the Southland is vying with the Northland in paying homage to the memory of the preserver of our Commonwealth, its flag and free institutions. If the shades of the venerated and martyred LINCOLN could witness this scene of a reunited and happy people, its cup of joy would overflow.

His was a life filled with greatness and sadness—free from malice, jealousy, and revenge.

His solicitude for the welfare of the South after the fall of the Confederacy was beautifully expressed in these words:

I want the people of the South to come back to the old home, to sit down at the old fireside, to sleep under the old roof, and to labor and rest and worship God under the old flag. For four years I have seen the flag of our Union riddled with bullets and torn with shell and trailed in the dust before the eyes of all the nations, and now I am hoping that it will please God to let me live until I shall see that same flag unsullied and untorn waving over the greatest and most powerful Nation of the earth—over a nation of freemen—over no master and over no slave.

When LINCOLN gave expression to these noble sentiments his heart was filled with solemn joy over the close of the war, and his mind was occupied with hopes for the future welfare of his country and his countrymen. For some time he had been laying plans by which the States could be reunited, and the brave men who had fought on both sides of the mighty struggle could live in peace and happiness ever after. Events followed each other in such quick succession the great President did not have an opportunity to impart to his associates his plans of reconstruction before he was removed from this earth by an assassin's bullet, and the earthly career of the "best-loved man

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that ever trod this continent was translated by a bloody martyrdom to his crown of glory."

Though the soul of LINCOLN had returned to its God as white as it came, it left behind a grief-stricken Nation—a Nation in tears. He had won for himself a place in the hearts of his countrymen that will endure until the end of time. While we love our great benefactor as an individual, he loved us as individuals and collectively. The secret of his remarkable life was his intense love not only of man and mankind but of all nature. He was so constituted that he grieved at the pains and rejoiced at the pleasures of his fellows. His sympathy knew no bounds, going so far as to forget himself in his desire to be useful to mankind. It was his strongest instinct, inherited from his refined, gentle, and sensitive mother and wonderfully developed through his childhood association with nature.

LINCOLN'S lowly birth served to develop him to the fullest perfection and endowed him with the highest and noblest qualities in man.

His childhood association with running brooks, vine-clad rocks, and hickory forests teeming with song birds and overrun with wild flowers, had much to do with forming his simple, earnest, and truthful character.

He grew to man's estate with a heart in full sympathy with every phase of life, capable of consorting and sympathizing with all things. In this respect he differed from his associates, for they were only capable of sympathizing with a few things. Though many of them were intellectual giants, they lacked the power to develop a broad human outlook; they were limited to their particular point of view, the political, the social, the commercial, and the religious, and judged life accordingly. Hence, anything outside their contracted sympathies they condemned as a thing of evil, and spent their energy trying to save it from damnation.

What was true of LINCOLN'S associates applies with equal force to the men of this day and age. Prejudices and antipathies originating in birth are seldom eradicated, and never if the child is brought up in a narrow groove.

Our environment exerts upon us a strong incentive to think, act, and judge as others do.

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LINCOLN'S success in life and his usefulness to mankind was his ability to rise above this parrot-like existence and to place himself in the position of others in order that he might understand them and be of use and service to them. Because of his broad, human, educated sympathies he was enabled to do this to a greater extent than any other historic personage of the world. There was no misguided sentiment in his make-up. Is it any wonder that, constituted as he was, he became the matchless leader of men? While an idealist in the truest sense, he was, at the same time, unusually practical and sound on all questions that affected man's relation to society.

That ABRAHAM LINCOLN was in fuller sympathy with mankind than any other man is evidenced by what he said and what he did for mankind during his earthly existence.

When a man said to him, "The people will go wrong on this subject," he replied, "Intellectually, probably they may; morally, never. In the multitude of counsel there is safety," said he, quoting from the Bible. Expressions of this kind flowed from his lips in countless number:

God must have loved the common people, for He made so many of them.

You can fool all of the people some of the time, some of the people all of the time, but you can not fool all of the people all of the time.

He always saw the distinction between an attempt to suppress public opinion and direct public opinion.

Our duty is to direct public opinion in the right channels; never to attempt to suppress it. That was LINCOLN'S philosophy, and his life and works are an exemplification of that philosophy.

Under LINCOLN the Nation had a new birth of freedom, and it is for us, the living, to dedicate ourselves to the preservation of that Nation to sustain which he gave the last full measure of devotion.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield five minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. Hicks].



### REMARKS BY MR. HICKS, OF NEW YORK

MR. HICKS. Mr. Chairman, it is not for me to review the story of LINCOLN's life or relate the memories and traditions which cluster around his name. That story, with its pathos and trials, its tragedies and triumphs, its humor and its sadness, has been told so often that it is impossible to illuminate the picture or add to the reverence and the homage which the world pays to ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Born in obscurity, nurtured in abject poverty, he closed life's fitful course the grandest figure of his generation, the noblest contribution of America to an enlightened civilization.

For many and many an age proclaim,  
At civic revel and pomp and game,  
With honor, honor, honor to him,  
Eternal honor to his name.

The life of LINCOLN, with its contrasts and contradictions, defies analysis and refutes the theory of heredity. The environment in which he was reared is in direct antithesis to the inspiring significance of his life. Misjudged, maligned, ridiculed, yet undaunted and undismayed, sustained by the unseen Hand that guides the destinies of men, he trod the weary path alone.

In that mysterious laboratory of Nature which knows naught of birth or wealth or station his brow was touched by the magic wand. Through the privations of his early years, in the gloom of struggle, the invisible flame within glowed with an effulgent light. In the quiet of the wilderness, by the blazing logs on the hearth of the rude cabin which to-day we venerate above the abode of princes, there came to him from the eternal silence of the starry sky that long, far call.

In LINCOLN were combined the noblest attributes of the mind, the heart, the soul. The stones in the foundation upon which was reared the structure of his life were simplicity, honesty, sincerity, and sympathy, bound together in enduring strength by his faith in his fellow men, his faith in his country, and his

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faith in his God. Where was the touch that raised him to such heights? What was the loadstone of his power? Wherein lay the secret whereby he stands forth the embodiment of the ideals and the personification of the spirit of the Nation? We ask, but we ask in vain. No positive, final answer has yet been given to the query.

In the crisis through which the Nation is passing let us keep constantly before us the memory and deeds of LINCOLN; let his unswerving courage and lofty patriotism be our guide in this hour of trial and tribulation. We may be divided upon issues affecting our domestic policy, but upon the preservation of the rights and dignity of the Nation there can be no division. Upon that subject, Mr. Chairman, we stand united as Americans, and our determination to maintain absolute and inviolate the honor of the flag must rise supreme to all prejudice for or against any of the contending powers; superior now and always to the selfish interests of other nations. Let the spirit of LINCOLN the patriot, LINCOLN the American, strengthen our hands and give courage to our hearts, and so enable us to face the problems of the present as he met those of the past, with the full measure of devotion to our country.

The acclaim of loyalty and patriotism which wells from the hearts of the Nation's representatives on the floor of Congress upon every allusion to the name of LINCOLN is a benediction of the past and an inspiration for the future. Forgetting sectional animosities, rising above political prejudices, every State offers its tribute of affection and veneration to the memory of the martyred President and proclaims its loyalty and devotion to a great united country. The honor of that name is the heritage of all, North and South. The bitterness and the anguish engendered by the mighty conflict of a half century ago have faded away; the dark clouds of hate and jealousy which hardened the hearts of men on both sides of that struggle have given place to the sunshine of respect and confidence. Under the softening influence of that noble sentiment of LINCOLN, "With malice toward none and with charity toward all," the line of Mason and Dixon has been obliterated. Across the chasm

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once drenched with the blood of heroes are extended the hands of brothers, brothers who like—

The mighty mother turns in tears  
The pages of her battle years,  
Lamenting all her fallen sons.

To you gentlemen of the Southland in whose veins flow the blood of the soldiers in gray, who in your magnanimity claim that LINCOLN is yours as well as ours, let me answer, as one from the North, Yes; LINCOLN is yours as well as ours, and Lee is ours as well as yours. [Applause.] But in revivifying the memories of the past I would rather forget that there are any yours. I prefer to remember only that it is all ours; that American greatness and American heroism knows no section and belongs to no generation; that in our nationalism we are all Americans united in a common cause, possessed of a common love for country and for flag. [Applause.]

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield two minutes to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. Russell].

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Missouri [Mr. Russell] is recognized for two minutes.



## REMARKS BY MR. RUSSELL, OF MISSOURI

Mr. Chairman, I have no prepared speech, and will not in the short time I have make any extended remarks, but I want simply to express my favorable consideration and my approval of this bill, the purpose of which is to accept for the Government the cabin home and birthplace of ABRAHAM LINCOLN as a donation from the present owners, the Lincoln Farm Association of the State of Kentucky. I believe that is a patriotic and a proper thing to do, both because we owe it to the memory of this great man to accept this donation of his birthplace and because I believe it is important as an inspiration and encouragement to other boys of our country who have been or who may hereafter be born in humble homes and of humble parentage. It helps to impress upon the minds of all American boys that the humblest in birth or station among them may aspire to places of the highest distinction and honor.

I knew of LINCOLN when I was a boy. I remember the Civil War very distinctly, and when the war began, and when my eldest brother went to fight on the side of the South for four years. I as a child was prejudiced against ABRAHAM LINCOLN. I was taught to believe he was an enemy of the South; but before that war was over we took a different view of it, and our people got to believe that he was our friend, a patriotic man in the discharge of a great duty to humanity and to his Government. I was, as an 11-year-old farmer's boy, in the cornfield dropping corn on the 15th day of April, 1865. My father went to town to get his mail, and when he came back he told us that ABRAHAM LINCOLN had been assassinated. There was no man in this Union more deeply grieved than my father, and all of his family shared in his genuine grief.

I overheard the minority leader of this House [Mr. Mann] about five years ago say one day when Washington's Farewell Address was being read that he hoped the time would some time come when some Democrat would have the patriotism to read

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in this House ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S Gettysburg speech. I accepted the suggestion, and four times on LINCOLN'S birthday, I have read that great and masterful speech, and with the permission of the Speaker of this House, I intend to read it every year on LINCOLN'S birthday as long as I remain a Member of this House. [Applause.]

Mr. McKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 minutes to the gentlemen from Nebraska [Mr. Sloan].

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. Sloan] is recognized for 10 minutes.

## REMARKS BY MR. SLOAN, OF NEBRASKA

Mr. Chairman, I can not hope to bring a new message on ABRAHAM LINCOLN to the House of Representatives. It is a tribute to the general intelligence of the American people that few men, either of learning or of experience, can bring any new message to the American people with reference to this primal American character.

I talked a short time ago with the author of this bill. He expressed the thought that seemed specially pertinent, that the discussion on this floor at this time should be related largely to the nativity, rather than to the achievements of America's statesman and martyr. I was pleased that in the preparation of the few remarks I shall submit I confined myself to facts touching his nativity rather than his achievements or death.

The devotees of Christianity have among their finest pictures, upon which has been expended the genius of many artists in all the ages, the "Nativity." The "Nativity" graces the walls of all the great art galleries where the divine touch of the artist has been made imperishable for the view and admiration of men. I trust that some American artist in the years to come will make classic the American "Nativity"; and that the subject will be the birthplace of ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The LINCOLN homestead of which we speak has a record running first from the Crown of England to the colony of Virginia. Then resting in the State of Virginia, and finally through private conveyances it reached the name of Thomas Lincoln, the father of the martyred President. What a strange train of events has passed since the title granted by the Crown to the title now granted to the Republic. During that time, of course, there has been much added value. The acreage has been reduced and the wildwood has been removed. Spacious and imposing buildings have been erected thereon. There is carried, in addition to the value of realty, valuable personal property amounting to \$50,000. But how insignificant is that added value when we consider the value that the name, fame, and achievements of ABRAHAM LINCOLN have contributed to the American Republic.

Clustering around LINCOLN's natal year are grouped the birth of many characters far-famed for their achievements.



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Charles Robert Darwin, whose study and communion with nature passed its artificial bounds, was born the same day as LINCOLN. He saw demonstrated far-reaching and progressive laws which, now indorsed by the scientific world, has advanced scientific research further than had been accomplished since Lord Bacon's inductive philosophy overthrew the system of Aristotle 300 years before. February 3, 1809, over in Germany, Mendelssohn, whose divine touch, combined with creative genius made him one of the world's princes of harmony, was born.

January 19, 1809, came Edgar Allan Poe, that weird poet of the night and storm, whose eccentric genius, both assailed and defended by critics, has left its impress on American verse, furnishing that rare accomplishment—a distinctive style.

In the same year Lord Tennyson, Britain's greatest laureate, was born in England. He said "Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay." Well might it now be written: "Better a century of America than a millennium of Europe."

In that same year Gladstone, Britain's greatest statesman since the day of Pitt and Peel, first saw the light.

In America that year gave us Oliver Wendell Holmes, wit, humorist, poet, and philosopher, to lighten the hearts and instruct the minds of his countrymen.

That year also gave us Cyrus McCormick, who invented the American reaper, which has contributed so largely to our agricultural production.

In the Hall of Fame, based upon the world's general estimate, all of these occupy commanding positions, but easily towering above them all stands LINCOLN.

He first looked upon the sun from a lonely environment, the wildwood cabin in the then county of Hardin (now county of Larue), in the new State of Kentucky, which had at that time, through the chronicles of Boone and his contemporaries, earned the sanguinary appellation of "Dark and bloody ground." Christ was born, not in a walled city, nor yet in the contending capitals of Samaria or Jerusalem. His nativity was humble Bethlehem. The nativity of LINCOLN was not in intellectual Massachusetts, commercial New York, or chivalric Virginia. His parents were as unambitious as their forest home would

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indicate. What ancestral strain of purpose, character, and mind with which he was endowed came from his mother. One of those mothers who, suppressed by her position and burdened by her cares, can seldom command the recognition due, except it be in the generation delayed, when the plaudits are given to the words and deeds of a wise or successful son. And in this way will the American people remember Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

At this time Thomas Jefferson, the inspired author of the Declaration of Independence and the strict constructionist of the American Constitution, was just closing his second presidential term. Napoleon had but recently strengthened America and weakened Europe by the sale of the Louisiana Territory to the United States. He was at that time walking on the writhing forms of European kings. The sun of Austerlitz had risen, Jena and Friedland had been won, and Europe rocked at his feet as he stood at the zenith of his power, while kings became his subjects, and emperors, to no purpose, were combining against him. When LINCOLN was born, there was yet to come the conflagration of Moscow, the snows of the north, Waterloo, St. Helena, and a rocky tomb. Such was the setting surrounding the date which ushered ABRAHAM LINCOLN into the world.

Nor would this setting be complete if it were not noted that in the same dark and bloody realm, in a community now part of the county of Todd, within less than a year of LINCOLN'S birth, Jefferson Davis was born. Less than a hundred miles separated their birthplaces, but throughout their momentous careers there was little convergence, yet had a strange relation.

Two companion snowdrops, pure, clear, and crystalline, as they fall touch the loftiest peak of the mountain chain. They freeze into a mighty mass, which yields to nothing except the wooing of the summer sun; and while they lie but a few inches apart, in their melting mass each moves down a different slope; each finds its mountain torrent conveying it to flooded river, and that swollen river to the sea. One reaches the turbulent Atlantic, the other the peaceful Pacific. Davis moved southwardly to Mississippi, the then great cotton State, where slavery thrived. LINCOLN found his way through Indiana to the prairies of Illinois, where labor was free.

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One year's schooling was the measure of LINCOLN's scholastic opportunity. Jefferson Davis, well taught, was later educated at West Point.

Each presided during four years of tragedy over a Republic. The one Republic struggled for an existence, the other battled to maintain its integrity undiminished. There was citizenship sufficient for the two greatest Republics on earth, but I rejoice to hear from either side of this hall the satisfaction that but one remains.

The cabin home this afternoon being considered was in the State which produced these two great characters. In that great struggle it seemed, as it were, that that State could not decide between the fortunes of her two matchless sons. It presented a divided allegiance. This measure furnishes to-day a fitting text for fraternal, patriotic sentiment from every part of this expanded Union.

Above his body at the Springfield home stands a monument viewed annually by tens of thousands. At the entrance to the great park at Chicago which bears his name, in heroic mold stands in imperishable bronze one of the most imposing statues of America. It was a triumph of the genius of St. Gaudens, America's premier sculptor. Hundreds of thousands who visit the great metropolis by the lake view it annually, departing with inspiration of renewed patriotism. At the National Capital soon to be completed near the scene of his activities, is a magnificent Greek temple erected to the memory of LINCOLN. Few out of the multitudes annually visiting Washington will fail to visit it and render tribute to LINCOLN's memory. But down in Kentucky is the fourth LINCOLN shrine. In point of reference and sequence it should be first, because it points to origin as the others call our attention to achievement, fame, mortality. Collectively they evidence to all the ages the miracle of the Republic. Humility of origin with greatness of soul are the stepping stones to primacy among men. [Applause.]

Mr. McKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield one-half a minute to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Fess].

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Fess] is recognized for half a minute.

#### REMARKS BY MR. FESS, OF OHIO

Mr. Chairman, listening to the address of Gen. Sherwood, a reference to a certain event—the bombardment of Fort Sumter—indicated to me that the significance of the vote to-day will be intensified when we recall that this is the anniversary of the opening of the Civil War.

Fifty-five years ago to-day Edwin Ruffin fired the first gun at Fort Sumter, and I thought that it would be significant just to remind Congress of that incident.

And 51 years ago day after to-morrow will be the anniversary of the assassination or of the shot that eventuated in the death of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, so that these two incidents give intensity to the vote upon this occasion to-day. I wanted by recalling those incidents of that particular time to refresh the memory of the House.

Mr. McKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield five minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Switzer].



## REMARKS BY MR. SWITZER, OF OHIO

Mr. Chairman, it will always be to me a fond remembrance to recall that as a Member of the American Congress I not only had the opportunity but that I availed myself of the privilege to vote for the appropriations made for the construction of that magnificent memorial, now nearing completion, in the Capital of the Nation to the memory of the great Civil War President, "God's grandest gift of man to men"—ABRAHAM LINCOLN. From the ranks of the frontiersmen he rose to the Presidency of the Nation. This obscure country lawyer did not believe that the Nation could survive half slave and half free. He was firmly convinced that "a house divided against itself could not stand." Regardless of the contention that it would be unconstitutional so to do, he found a way to liberate 4,000,000 bondsmen and still preserve the Union.

Charged with the commission of all manner of high crimes and misdemeanors and unconstitutional acts while in office, no man was more reviled than he; yet to-day no name is more lauded and revered than his. All sects, creeds, and parties vie with one another in loud protestation of their great loyalty and high respect for the opinions held and for the principles and policies advocated by ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Time has vindicated the absolute justice of his course, and silenced the carping criticisms of his enemies beyond the peradventure of a murmur.

In dedicating to the Nation the birthplace of this illustrious American, Kentucky gives renewed luster and added fame to her already immortal name. The Nation through its Congress accepts this token of high respect to the memory of our martyred President as the most magnanimous of the many generous and noble deeds for which the people of the great State of Kentucky are so famed. The dark and bloody ground, the home of Daniel Boone and other noted pioneers, by this patriotic act is consecrated anew to that Jeffersonian idea of liberty, the



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equality of all men before the law, which was ever so near and dear to the heart of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. As the generations come and go, we trust that they may not only travel to the last resting place of this great man and visit the Nation's memorial to his name, but that they may also journey to the scenes of his childhood, and at the fountain head of his noble life drink deep the holy inspiration which has animated this tribute of patriotic citizens to the crowning glory of the Nation—the final memorialization of the birthplace, the life, and the last resting place of LINCOLN. [Applause.]

Mr. MANN. I yield five minutes to the gentleman from Vermont [Mr. Dale].

## REMARKS BY MR. DALE, OF VERMONT

Mr. Chairman, a new Member finds it interesting to watch a bill on its way through this House and to observe the statements that carry effect in its passage.

During the past week there have been indications that sectional and conflicting interests will continue as long as there is water in rivers and harbors; but, Mr. Chairman, to one coming from the far North and meeting in this forum the generous, loyal men of the South it is pleasant to quickly perceive that the time is past when argument can gain force here from those old war issues that lie buried under principles that we now all welcome as immortal. [Applause.]

When we speak here of the leaders of that period of strife that was we summon quickest response at mention of the human sympathy in each for all the embattled hosts. In the final judgment of mankind upon the great men of history it is kindness which survives the brightest. It is that which ennobles the manner in which the heavy obligations of the South were assumed when they were laid on the well-nigh breaking heart of Robert E. Lee. Because the man of whom we speak to-day was, in his high position, distinctly gentle and considerate, Members from the Southland give cordial support to this pending measure. For this reason they express tender and heroic sentiments that are tributes of the finest nature to the character of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Artistic skill may well exhaust itself in memory of the kindness of this supreme man; but the substance of the expression of that quality is elusive, and it may leave the marble hall for the log cabin, its natural home. There we find the best expression of that broad sympathy that went out through all the cabins of the North and of the West and awakened heroic impulse in the youth of the common people.

When the Third Regiment from the State of Vermont was formed it included many men who were born in log cabins. In

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that regiment, as it camped up here on the Potomac 10 miles away, was a boy, William Scott, who, while doing double service for his comrades, fell asleep on picket, was court-martialed, and condemned to be shot. Then in the darkness of the night the President of this great Nation at war, wearied as he must have been, ordered his horse and carriage and rode out to save the life of that young boy. In the pitiful affair at Lees Mill he fell, whispering a prayer for ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Enlisted with him were three Stevens brothers, sons of a widowed mother in my home. One of those boys fell at Lees Mill, one was the first to be shot out here on the Rockville Pike in the battle for the defense of this Capital, and one went home disabled for life. These boys and all those like them felt the inspiration of this great man, and it enabled them to face danger more easily, and it took away from them the sting of death.

Incomparable man that he was, where do we find the source of his inspiration?

In that humble home there came to him, earlier than memory, the consciousness of one who was the very substance of patience and tenderness and mercy, and was to him the origin of justice. In her face he beheld first the expression of the infinite qualities that made his own character sublime. In that there is reason enough to save the old log cabin.

All his life was unnatural in that it forced ill causes to good effects. In form and feature he was rough shapen and plain, but through relief of agony to many he became the handsomest man in all the world. The legislature rejected him for the Senate, and out of disappointment he made humor by saying that he felt like the boy who stumped his toe—too hurt to laugh and too big to cry.

He came to his inauguration in a guarded train along a line where the telegraph wires had been cut that men might not shoot him, and above the cloud of threatened intent rose the spirit that impelled him to drive all night to save a boy from being shot.

The multitude besieged him to dull weariness, and it made sensitive a tone in his nature that felt response to the cry of an infant in the throng, and he said, "Send in next that woman with a baby." He was called a countryman, unfit for official

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place, but when the telegram came from the man in command of the Armies in the great crisis of the war indicating the fearful loss of life that must follow, Dr. Edward Everett Hale, observing him as he moved among and counseled with the polished and able gentlemen of his Cabinet, said that his grace of manner and wisdom of expression were superb. When at last that group of eminent statesmen who had concurred in the opinion that he lacked the ability to be President stood over him, and it was said "now he belongs to the ages," his life closed in a splendor of blending contrasts.

In that rude shelter of his childhood there dwells more than in statue or memorial the emotion of that process by which his own want increased his sense of human need and made him generous.

The common comforts of life, the just estimate of men, and all the elements of equity, he knew only through the giving of them to others.

Out of longing that grew intense by denial the very passion of his humor and tenderness and mercy became supreme. That which he found not for himself he gave in abundance to others, and his whole life was passed in bringing from resisting conditions marvelous results.

Nothing indicates so well the life that was itself a contrast, a paradox, the meager compensation that came to him and his rich bestowment to the Nation as the log cabin and the marble hall by which it is inclosed.

Ah, Mr. Chairman, let us preserve this old log cabin, that generations may learn from it the qualities that there had birth and are changeless and deathless forever. [Applause.]

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. Barkley].



## REMARKS BY MR. BARKLEY, OF KENTUCKY

Mr. Chairman, if it were necessary to apologize to the House on this occasion for occupying its time for a few moments, I feel that it would be sufficient to say that my reason for speaking is not only the fact that I, in part, represent the State in which LINCOLN was born, but also from boyhood I have been tremendously interested in his character and career.

It is very appropriate that during this year the LINCOLN farm should be donated to and accepted by the Government of the United States, for it is the one hundredth anniversary of the removal of ABRAHAM LINCOLN from Kentucky to Indiana, he having crossed with his family the Ohio River in 1816, never thereafter having returned, so far as I know, to the place of his birth.

If time were afforded I should like to recount the names of those men who, during the history of this Nation, have gone out from Kentucky to bless the civilization of every State in the Union and the Nation itself as a whole. If I could recount the names of the governors and Senators and Members of this House, the ambassadors to foreign nations, the ministers of the Gospel, the teachers of men, and the long list of worthy sons in every walk of life, whose birthplaces were in the same State in which is located this remarkable home which gave LINCOLN to the Nation, I am sure I might be able to enlist your admiration for the product of that great State on whose soil LINCOLN himself was born. To Kentucky has frequently been ascribed the honor of producing a variety of things for the benefit of humanity, but I think we may properly, on this occasion, refer to the great men, as well as the great women, who have gone out from that State and mingled with the people of every section, all with honor to themselves and credit to their native State.

In all this list two names stand out preeminent. One is the name of Jefferson Davis and the other is the name of ABRAHAM



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LINCOLN. We frequently marvel at the peculiar and fortuitous circumstances by which the careers of men are hedged about. But who can explain on any other theory than the guidance of a providential hand the fact that both Jefferson Davis and ABRAHAM LINCOLN, rival leaders in the great Civil War, were born under Kentucky's sun, and were nestled to the bosom of two of her noble women?

I shall not attempt in this brief address to refer, except incidentally, to the statesmanship or to the achievements of LINCOLN in public life, because, after all, these are not the things that grip our hearts; these are not the things that cause us to shed a tear to-day over the grave of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. I prefer, on this occasion, to let my mind run back to the little humble cabin in Kentucky, where LINCOLN, in 1809, first looked upon a world of wonders. I prefer to think of him "cooning" a log across Knob Creek at the age of 5 and falling into its waters and having to be pulled out by a companion just in time to prevent him from drowning. I prefer to think of him at the age of 7, holding to his mother's hand, as he and she performed their last duty before leaving Kentucky by visiting the little grave of the baby boy who was born and died in those lonely hills, from which, so far as I am aware, he was never removed. I prefer to think of LINCOLN to-day reading the Holy Scriptures to his mother night after night as she lay upon her deathbed in that lonely home in Indiana.

I prefer to think of him as he wrote his first letter, at the age of 10 or 11, asking an old Kentucky preacher, whom he had known before his removal to Indiana, to come over and preach his mother's funeral, a service which could not be performed for lack of a minister at the time of her burial. I prefer to think of LINCOLN to-day as he wept over the grave of beloved Ann Rutledge, his heart bleeding as no other heart could bleed, and exclaiming as he fell upon the new-made mound: "Here lies the body of Ann Rutledge and the heart of ABRAHAM LINCOLN."

These are the things that endear LINCOLN to us and to our memory, because these are the things that touch our sympathy; these are the incidents which appeal to us most strongly in the early life of him whose whole career comprises the greatest

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individual tragedy which has been enacted upon the stage of American national life. These touch the tender chords and the wellsprings of the human heart, and we forget the Gettysburg speech and the second inaugural address and the Douglas debates. We forget his struggle with his Cabinet and with the tremendous problems with which he was surrounded and confronted. All these things for the day are put aside, and we remember the lonely, tragic boyhood of this wonderful man and faintly realize the moral foundation, formed as he passed through these crucibles of the human heart, which enabled him to give expression in the heat of a great political campaign to the sublime sentiment, "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be right," a sentiment whose meaning ought to be applied with double force in the perilous times in which we live both to public problems and to public men.

As we think of this great character, coming as he did from Kentucky, we remember with great pride that in his veins was infused the same blood and in his heart the same spirit that emboldened Daniel Boone, the Kentucky pioneer, to cut and fight his way into a wilderness and help to carve out of it one of the greatest Commonwealths of this Nation, for LINCOLN himself was a relative of Daniel Boone, his grandfather having been a cousin of the great pioneer. And I am glad to say in passing that this rugged courage which guided the life of LINCOLN and of Boone is still to be found among the sons of old Kentucky, for we have it typified in the rugged honesty and sterling character of our own Speaker of the House, Champ Clark, of Missouri, who himself was born and reared in Kentucky, and also in the leader of the minority, Mr. Mann, who although not having been born in that State itself, yet boasts that his forbears came from that soil which gave to the Nation and to the world Jefferson Davis and ABRAHAM LINCOLN. [Applause.]

We have heard many stories of LINCOLN, and I confess that I never tire of reading or hearing the stories about him. These stories which illustrate the humanity of LINCOLN are not confined to his boyhood, nor to his young manhood, but are found all through his mature manhood, when the burdens of public

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duties were heaviest upon his shoulders. The other day I read a very pathetic story which touched my heart, and which illustrates forcibly the truth of the quotation, "He who stoops to lift the fallen, does not stoop but stands erect." There was a schoolhouse somewhere near the back yard of the White House, and as the boys played across the fence, from day to day, LINCOLN frequently went out to watch them. One day the teacher decided to give the boys a lesson in neatness, and commanded them that they should have their shoes fresh shined before coming to school the following day. The next day the boys came to school with their faces and hands clean, with clean clothes upon themselves, and with their shoes all shined. There was one little one-armed boy, however, the son of a dead soldier who had given his life in the Civil War, whose mother made her living here in Washington as a washerwoman, who had no blacking in the house, and consequently he undertook to shine his shoes with stove polish. When he reached the school, his shoes shined with stove polish, the other pupils began to ridicule him, and his little heart was filled with sorrow and humiliation. Mr. LINCOLN, hearing the gibes at the little one-armed fellow, made a detailed inquiry and ascertained the cause of the trouble. The next day Mr. LINCOLN took this little boy and bought him two new pairs of shoes, two suits of clothes, and bought for his sisters new linen and dresses, and sent groceries and clothes to the home of his mother. He then put in the boy's hands a note to the teacher, in which he asked her to place upon the blackboard the following words: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethern, ye have done it also unto Me." A few days later he took occasion to visit the schoolhouse in person, and finding the quotation still on the board, he asked for a piece of crayon, and going to the board he said, "Boys, I have another quotation from the Bible in my mind that I want to put under this other one, that you may observe it and apply it to your future lives." And then he wrote, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," and wrote under it his simple signature, "A. LINCOLN."

Mr. Chairman, in the turmoil of our modern-day politics, in the confusion of our political rivalry, and in the narrowness and

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bitterness of our partisan fights in Congress, let us to-day rekindle our hope and faith in the destiny of that Nation to which LINCOLN gave his life and let us hope that in the years that are to come we and our children and our children's children for a thousand generations may more and more appreciate the simplicity and sublimity of LINCOLN'S character, to the end that we may contribute to the consummation of that spirit of public devotion and common well-being which will enable us to say with him, "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be right." [Applause.]

The State of Kentucky is glad to give to the Nation this humble, yet sacred little farm, whose one great product is to-day the admiration of the world, and when future generations shall view this little home, this log cabin in the hills of Kentucky, may they be inspired with the hope that the flag which hangs above your head, for which LINCOLN, as well as countless others before and after him, gave all that they had—their lives—and the Union for which it stands, may always mean what he thought it ought to mean, the equality of man before the law, and the equality to pursue the legitimate objects of happiness and of service without regard to clime or creed or section. [Applause.]

As the Nation will this day accept the gift of the LINCOLN farm, may we not hope that at a day not long postponed a similar acceptance may be registered of the Davis home, and that these two spots, not far from each other in the soil of Kentucky, may be enshrined in the love and imagination of patriots everywhere, typifying the reunion of heart and hope and hand through which our common country shall more and more become the land of opportunity and the beacon light of liberty for us and all who shall follow us, which shall become brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. [Applause.]





## REMARKS BY MR. RAINEY, OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Chairman, 52 years ago the campaign for the reelection of ABRAHAM LINCOLN was opening. The real issues were surprisingly similar to the issues of to-day. The same arguments were being used for and against the reelection of LINCOLN as are being used to-day and will be used throughout the campaign which is opening for and against the reelection of President Wilson.

LINCOLN STRONGLY OPPOSED BY PROMINENT LEADERS IN HIS OWN PARTY, BUT HIS STRENGTH WAS WITH THE PEOPLE.

On page 183 of the very excellent work of A. K. McClure, *Our Presidents: How We Make Them*, Dr. McClure calls attention to the fact that prominent leaders of LINCOLN'S own party were bitterly opposed to LINCOLN and were opposed even to accepting him as a candidate. Chase, Wade, Henry Winter Davis, and Horace Greeley were among those who did not think LINCOLN would make the best candidate. Sumner was not heartily for him. Stevens was earnestly opposed to him "because he had not pressed confiscation and other punishments against the South, and the extreme radical wing of the Republican Party was aggressive in its hostility. LINCOLN'S strength was with the people, and they overwhelmed the leaders who sought his overthrow."

There are, however, few, if any, men prominent in Democratic councils who are opposing the candidacy of Mr. Wilson; but the real strength of the President is with the people.

In his *Twenty Years of Congress*, volume 1, page 530, James G. Blaine, commenting upon the presidential elections of 1864, calls attention to the fact that it seemed that LINCOLN would be defeated. President LINCOLN thought so himself, but the crisis through which the country was passing soon brought an end to mere political controversies.

Mere political feeling largely subsided and the people were actuated by a higher sense of public duty.



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In this connection Mr. Blaine also says:

The argument for Mr. Lincoln's reelection addressed itself with irresistible force to the patriotic sentiment and sober judgment of the country.

The Nation is passing through a crisis now in its history as great as the crisis which confronted the country during the campaign of LINCOLN for reelection in 1864. Fortunately under one flag, the 48 great States of this Union stand united against the international perils which confront us. Alone among the great nations of the earth, we must accept the task of keeping brightly burning upon the seas, as well as on the continents, the lights of civilization. We can not shrink within our national boundaries and avoid the duties imposed upon us in this great crisis of the world's history. We can not permit the nations of the earth to sink back into the darkness of the medieval night. We confront a world in arms. Under the wise guidance of President Wilson we have so far been able to uphold the standards of civilization and escape participation in the present struggle. It is not wise to adopt any other leadership.

### DISAPPOINTED OFFICE SEEKERS IN 1864 AND IMPATIENCE WITH MR. LINCOLN'S CONSERVATIVE METHODS.

The disappointments among those who had not succeeded in their ambition to secure appointive positions were more marked during LINCOLN's second campaign than now. The Republican Party was absolutely new in national politics. Thousands of men who had been interested in its prior campaigns and who had fought hard for the things the party stood for had not been able to obtain the appointments they desired. LINCOLN had at his disposal more appointive positions than President Wilson has had at his disposal. There was no civil service in those days and the appointments were both civil and military.

James G. Blaine, on page 514 of volume 1 of his *Twenty Years of Congress*, calls attention to this situation:

A part of the hostility was due to a sincere though mistaken impatience with Mr. LINCOLN's slow and conservative methods and a part was due to political resentments and ambitions. The more radical element of the party was not content with the President's cautious and moderate policy, but insisted that he should proceed to extreme measures or give way to some bolder leader who would meet these demands. Other individuals had been

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aggrieved by personal disappointments, and the spirit of faction could not be altogether extinguished even amid the agonies of war. There were civil as well as military offices to be filled, and the selection among candidates put forward in various interests could not be made without leaving a sense of discomfort in many breasts.

### PRESIDENT LINCOLN IN THE GREAT CRISIS WHICH CONFRONTED THE NATION FREQUENTLY CHANGED HIS MIND

President Wilson is charged with changing his position on important economic questions. In this present period of rapid kaleidoscopic changes in world affairs men who stand still will soon find themselves standing alone. The charges of changing his mind and of vacillation urged with such insistence against President Wilson at the present time were urged with equal insistence and vigor against President LINCOLN during the campaign of 1864, and in order to meet the arguments along this line it was necessary, in the month of October, 1864, to bring back from the front a popular military hero to deliver an address, which was at once widely circulated, on this very subject. The meeting was advertised for the 9th day of October, 1864, and on that day one of the greatest mass meetings of the campaign assembled in the city of Brooklyn. The military hero who was brought back from the front to address this great meeting was Maj. Gen. Carl Schurz. President LINCOLN had already made an answer to the charge of changing his policies. After reviewing the policies and the particulars upon which President LINCOLN had changed his position, with great force and effect, Gen. Schurz, in his speech on that occasion, quoted from LINCOLN as follows: "I am not controlling events, but events are controlling me." The speech was printed in the New York papers of October 10, 1864, and was widely copied throughout the country. People saw at once the force of LINCOLN's position, and so at the present time, in the great crisis which confronts us amidst changing world conditions, when our industries are reaching out for a world trade they never had before, and when the charge of vacillation and changing his mind is made against the President of the United States, we can reply, as LINCOLN replied over a half century ago, the President is not controlling events; events are controlling him.

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## THEY CALLED LINCOLN NAMES AND ABUSED HIM

At the present time vile, scandalous terms are being used by critics of President Wilson and his policies in the magazines and newspapers of the land. These terms are being used by writers from the caliber of Owen Wister, with his mastery of English, down to the most insignificant penny-a-liner who writes for metropolitan papers in great cities, but they have not been able to invent as many opprobrious words as were used by the critics of LINCOLN in 1864. The New York Daily Tribune of Tuesday, September 6, 1864, assembles some of the names used by the opponents of LINCOLN in and out of his party in the campaign of 1864. According to the Tribune these are some of the names applied to LINCOLN during that campaign: "Filthy story-teller," "despot," "big secessionist," "liar," "thief," "braggart," "buffoon," "usurper," "monster," "Ignoramus Abe," "old scoundrel," "perjurer," "robber," "swindler," "tyrant," "fiend," "butcher," "land pirate," and other pleasant epithets.

The article in the Tribune assembling these terms concludes as follows:

The vocabulary of billingsgate is limited and their ammunition of abuse may be exhausted before the day of battle.

So may we not hope in this campaign that the vocabulary of billingsgate, in which so many of the President's opponents are apparently so splendidly skilled, and their ammunition of abuse may be exhausted before the day of battle? But whether it is or not it will have no effect on the final result.

## NOT BEST TO SWAP HORSES WHILE CROSSING STREAMS

This was the argument which prevailed in LINCOLN's second campaign, and in the strangely similar campaign which opens now before us this appeals most strongly to men of all parties. The phrase is not a new one. It has been used in American politics from 1864 to the present time. Its origin, however, has become obscured. It may be interesting at the present time in this connection to call attention to the origin of this

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expression which had such tremendous effect in the campaign of 1864.

The Republican convention closed its sittings at Baltimore on the 9th day of June, 1864. On the next day a committee selected by it assembled in the East Room of the White House and Gov. Dennison, who had been president of the convention and who was chairman of the committee, addressed the President officially, conveying to him the information as to the action of the convention. President LINCOLN replied, accepting the nomination conferred upon him and approving the platform declarations. This meeting in the East Room of the White House, however, attracted not the slightest attention in the campaign which followed; but on the afternoon of that day a number of the members of the National Union League informally called on the President at the White House to congratulate him upon his renomination. In the entirely extemporaneous address made by LINCOLN on this occasion he was at his best, and it was in this address that he sounded the keynote of the campaign which followed. After expressing his thanks for the personal compliments paid to him on that day he assured his callers that the only compliment he was entitled to appropriate was the one expressed to the effect that he might hope that—

I am not entirely unworthy to be intrusted with the place I have occupied for the last three years. I have not permitted myself, gentlemen, to conclude that I am the best man in the country, but I am reminded on this occasion of the story of an old Dutch farmer who remarked to a companion once that "it is not best to swap horses when crossing streams."

The story was new in national politics. It was greeted with tumultuous applause and laughter when LINCOLN related it in the White House on the afternoon following the adjournment of the Baltimore convention. It was reported the next day in the New York Daily Tribune and was copied throughout the country. It found a place in the campaign literature and on the campaign banners used in 1864. During the present campaign which so strangely parallels the second LINCOLN campaign it can appropriately be used again.



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On the night of June 9, at a great meeting at the Cooper Union Institute in New York City, the Rev. Dr. Buddington, of New York, in his eloquent address caught the spirit of the approaching campaign and alluded to Mr. LINCOLN as the man "who was and is leading the people as Moses led the children of Israel through the Red Sea," and this phrase, along with the homely story of LINCOLN, became popular throughout the campaign which followed. The story told by LINCOLN had its effect again when one week later the great hall of the Cooper Institute in New York was again crowded at the ratification meeting of the Central Union LINCOLN Campaign Club, of New York. On the platform were Peter Cooper, Theodore Tilton, and others, but the greatest enthusiasm was provoked by the speech of Hon. Charles S. Spencer, the president of the club, when he said:

We have no disappointing ambition, no personal revenge to gratify. As the President has stood by the country in the hour of trial, so stand we by the President.

I can think of no better expression than this with which to depict the sentiment which ought to prevail and will prevail in the campaign which opens now for the reelection of President Wilson, 52 years after the speech of Mr. Spencer was delivered.

The New York Daily Tribune of Wednesday, September 14, 1864, calls attention to the appeal for the reelection of LINCOLN sent out by the national union committee from its headquarters in New York City. The appeal went out on the 9th day of September, 1864. It was a stirring appeal for the reelection of LINCOLN. It was in harmony with the sentiment which dominated the campaign. That part which appealed most strongly to the country, and which those who favor the reelection of President Wilson can appropriate at the present time, read as follows:

We call upon you to stand by the President, who under circumstances of unparalled difficulty has wielded the power of the Nation with unfaltering courage and fidelity, with integrity which even calumny has not dared to impeach and with wisdom and prudence upon which success is even now stamping the surest and the final seal.

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In Edward Stanton's History of the Presidency, on page 299, referring to Mr. LINCOLN's reelection, he calls attention to LINCOLN's story, which he does not quite correctly quote, and says:

Mr. LINCOLN neither obtrusively urged himself as a candidate for reelection nor made any coy professions of unwillingness to be chosen again. He was simply and frankly a candidate. He believed that it was best for the country, under the circumstances, that he should be continued in office. It was not good policy "to swap horses while crossing a stream."

### IMPORTANT ISSUES OF 1864 AND 1916 THE SAME.

No matter how much we may differ on the question of the tariff and on other economic subjects, we must all agree that the crisis through which we are passing as a Nation at the present time is as important in its consequences as the crisis of 1864. The same questions of soul-stirring patriotism appear again, and, strangely, the same methods used against LINCOLN in the campaign of 1864 are being used now by the enemies in all parties of President Wilson. May we not hope that the shafts of envy and malice aimed now against President Wilson will fall as harmlessly to the ground as they did in the second LINCOLN campaign? It was not best 52 years ago, it is not best now "to swap horses while crossing streams."





## REMARKS BY MR. MADDEN, OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, in a log cabin on the banks of the Sangamon River, a small stream emptying into the Illinois River, there lived about 83 years ago a long, lank, homely, sad-eyed rail splitter, unknown save only to his parents and a few scattering neighbors, who, like himself, were eking out by the hardest kind of labor a mere existence in a then wild and unpromising section of this the home of the free and the land of the brave. He was not employed by the hour, day, week, month, or year, nor did he receive a daily wage as compensation for his labor. He worked from sunup to sundown, and when he had piled up 400 rails he received from a poor widow in exchange therefor enough homespun cloth to make him or his father a pair of trousers.

He was a Kentuckian by birth, and moved, when a young man, with a worthless father, a carpenter by trade, to the State of Indiana, and after sojourning there for a short time came on to Illinois, where they built a log cabin on a bluff near the River Sangamon, when the young man soon became famous, not only as the champion rail splitter of his county, but also for his ability to dispatch hogs with lightninglike rapidity, and for which service he received the munificent sum of 30 cents per day.

His rail-splitting and hog-killing proclivities did not constitute all of the qualifications which this young man possessed and which made him the envy of his many rural competitors. He could run faster, jump farther, strike harder, and could throw down with great ease any man bold enough to question his physical superiority; and, although at this time his mental strength did not keep pace with his physical greatness, he could read, write, and cipher, and, above all, he could be relied upon and was absolutely honest, a characteristic which, like the rugged mountain peak, rises majestically above the clouds.

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Young LINCOLN gave up the rail-splitting industry to engage in the grocery business; but having an inborn dislike for business precision and indoor confinement he speedily abandoned that avocation to engage in the more agreeable pastime of fighting Indians. He had himself elected captain of a military company in 1832 and proceeded to put his company in condition to end the Black Hawk War forthwith; and, although it is not recorded that he ever saw an Indian during that engagement, it is a matter of record that his failure to meet the enemy was no fault of his.

Having political ambition and being popular with his neighbors, who for the most part were a sorry lot of very poor people, he, in 1833, by such methods as are perfectly familiar to those who are in politics and in the same way now employed—we have not improved much upon LINCOLN'S manner of doing politics—ingratiated himself into the good graces of his Congressman and was appointed postmaster, in which position he familiarized himself with current happenings by reading to his patrons newspapers, postal cards, and other publications which came into his official hands for distribution and delivery. His office, as can well be imagined, was a meeting place for all sorts of quaint characters, who came in crowds to listen with admiration to the witty and wise sayings of their foremost fellow citizen. The official duties of this governmental dignitary were not arduous—in fact, it is said that he carried the mail in his hat, and when transporting even his heaviest mail in this way there was ample room for a head destined in the near future to furnish intelligence enough to rule with matchless splendor and success the greatest nation on the face of the earth.

LINCOLN at this time had, of course, no intimation of his ultimate greatness, and it is doubtful if he had ever dreamed of representing in an official capacity a greater number of his fellow citizens than were then residing in the little village over which he presided with great dignity as postmaster. The germs of greatness were in him, however, and were being slowly developed by Almighty God to fit him, when the emergency should come, to grapple with and master the greatest and most complicated national problem that has ever fallen to the lot

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of man to solve. True, he was ambitious, and wisely seeing that his manly character and his native wit had given to him a place of political prominence among his fellow townsmen, it was perfectly natural that he should seek still higher ascendancy in the political firmament, and having natural inclination to orate he became a candidate for the State legislature in 1832 and took the stump. It is written down that his speeches were calculated more to amuse than edify, but with a persistency characteristic of all western men of ambition, and remembering the precept that "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise," he sailed in and told his rustic hearers all about the affairs of government and a lot more. The following was his maiden speech as a candidate for the legislature:

Fellow citizens, I am humble ABRAHAM LINCOLN. My politics are short and sweet, like the old woman's dance. I am in favor of a national bank, of internal improvements, and a high protective tariff. These are my sentiments. If elected, I shall be thankful; if not, it will be all the same.

He was defeated, but having taken on considerable knowledge by his experience and the persistent reading of books, he did not complain or cuss his successful competitor for this high office, but like a good American citizen he went to work and bided his time. Again he tried the grocery business, and again he failed. Somehow he seemed to be unfitted for the business of selling the products of the soil. Possibly the alluring smile of his customers when they saw the scales tip in their favor had something to do with it. Anyhow he failed. Anybody else, easily discouraged, would have, after so many adversities, gone back to the rail-splitting business. Not so with LINCOLN. He took to the study of the law, and by so doing he hoped to add to his political success, and at the same time to fit himself so as to render competent legal services to some unfortunate fellow man after he should have mastered the intricacies of human jurisprudence. His great aim in life was to help his brother man, and to do this he was ever ready to give up his life. While studying law it became necessary to keep body and soul together; he became an assistant surveyor, and by hard study equipped himself to perform the services of such an employee

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in six weeks. About this time the sun began to shine through the dark clouds of despair which had hung over him, and LINCOLN grew more optimistic—he never was a pessimist, but always seemed sad. He purchased a decent suit of clothes, the first he had ever had, made the acquaintance of prominent men, and profited by their acquaintance.

In 1834 the people of the State of Illinois elected a new legislature, and LINCOLN was one of the successful candidates. The State capital was then located at Vandalia, and LINCOLN was prominent in having enacted into law a bill removing it to Springfield. Aside from this bit of wise legislation nothing was done in which he played a prominent part calculated to create an impression that he was soon to become in fame second only to Washington, but in the succeeding legislature, to which he also was elected, he and his colleague, Daniel Stone, the two members from Sangamon County, introduced the famous resolution declaring that the institution of slavery “was founded on both injustice and bad policy.”

In 1837 LINCOLN was admitted to the bar and moved to Springfield, a village of some 1,500 people. In 1838, at the age of 29, he was again elected to the legislature, where he continued assiduously, by wise legislation, to better the condition of the people. He found time to carry on the practice of law and was reputed to be a good lawyer, although his services as such, being respectable, was not great.

LINCOLN was a born politician. His heart was in the work, and it was in this prolific field that his great achievements were accomplished. He did not like the technicalities of the law, but rather preferred to make political speeches, in which particular occupation his genius shone with great brilliancy.

In 1840, during the Harrison presidential campaign, LINCOLN stumped the State in behalf of the Whig cause, and it was during this canvass that he came in contact with the great scholar and political debater, Stephen A. Douglas.

In 1843 Mr. LINCOLN was defeated for Congress, to which high position he had long aspired. He was more successful in 1846, however, when he received a majority of the votes cast in the congressional contest and was elected to a seat in the National



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House of Representatives. As a Congressman LINCOLN's record was but fair. He made some three or four speeches, devoted more to wit and humor than sound reasoning, although questions of great moment were during those days demanding the attention of leading statesmen.

Many biographers have given too much time and attention to LINCOLN's domestic life, which was all but pleasant, as is well known to everybody. It is the public services of great men rather than their private affairs that receive and merit the attention of the public, and this incomparable man's public life is so filled with brilliant achievements that to deviate therefrom would avail nothing intellectual and would be doing that which, to say the least, would be unwise.

As I have said before, LINCOLN's ability as a lawyer did not shine with any particular brilliancy. He did not become famous through his practice of the law, as a State representative, or as a Congressman. Neither could he compare in eloquence with Douglas, Clay, Webster, or Calhoun as a public speaker. It was his matchless moral character, the prominent part he played in a great cause, and his marvelous leadership that will cause his name to be honored and revered throughout the ages.

His great political career really began in 1854, notwithstanding he had served two years in Congress; 1847-1849.

It was the attempt of southern statesmen to compel Congress to extend slavery in the Territories that aroused the great indignation of LINCOLN and which, indirectly, made him the leader of the opposition to the movement to establish slavery in territory belonging to the United States, an institution declared by him to be "founded on both injustice and bad policy."

Henry Clay's great compromise bill succeeded in quieting for a time the bitterness that was engendered by this inhuman attempt. It was but the calm that precedes a storm, however, and was short lived. An attempt to pass the fugitive-slave law was regarded as a national outrage by northern men, and the protest that was registered when man hunters seized trembling fugitives and took them back to a life infinitely worse than death was of a nature to cause public men to tremble. The whole North became alive with righteous indignation at this



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barbarous and unspeakable act of inhumanity. Newspapers protested, orators thundered, excitement exceeded all bounds. More fuel to the flames was added about this time by Stephen A. Douglas, a United States Senator from the State of Illinois, by the introduction of his famous Kansas-Nebraska bill, the purpose of which was to open up the vast territory of Kansas and Nebraska to the introduction of slavery, providing that the people of these Territories should so favor. The South needed this territory, and Douglas, who had presidential aspirations, was playing into their hands.

The attempt to put the bill on the statute book opened the eyes even of some Democratic leaders of the North, and a united outcry of protestation from the press, the platform, and the pulpit was raised in one great scream of wrath, which no doubt could be distinctly heard south of Mason and Dixon's line.

It will not be necessary for me to recount the many crimes committed in the Territory of Kansas by armed ruffians from Missouri, who elected by fraud a legislature favorable to slavery in that Territory. Nor will it be necessary for me to discuss the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case. You are all familiar with these matters. Suffice it to say that these triumphs were exceedingly pleasing to the southern cause, and that the question now was, Shall slavery advance into new territory? The North said "no," the South said "yes."

At this stage of the contest LINCOLN came upon the scene and his career as a national character began. He crossed swords with Douglas, reputed to be the most powerful advocate of Democratic principles in the North. They were both candidates for the United States Senate—LINCOLN the Republican candidate and Douglas the Democratic nominee. The debates which took place between these two giants became world famous. LINCOLN, filled with indignation at the wrongs that had been perpetrated upon humanity, seemed to be inspired as he combated the arguments of the trained political debater Douglas. His battle cry was, "The Government can not endure half slave and half free," and that "a house divided against itself could not stand." He did not go beyond the constitutional limits, however, but admitted that the South had a right to a fugitive-slave

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law, but he never missed an opportunity to let it be known that he despised the institution of slavery. His speeches during this contest attracted such universal attention that he was invited to speak in Eastern States, which he did in such splendid style as to add increased glory to his fame as an orator.

Following his contest with Douglas, which attracted so much attention throughout the civilized world, the people of the North demanded the nomination of LINCOLN as President. The Republican Party heeded the call, and in 1860 made him its standard bearer. After the election, which waged furiously in all sections of the country, LINCOLN was elected. The North had triumphed over the South. Cannons roared, bells were rung, brave men cried with joy, and the prayers of the oppressed ascended to high heaven. Great was the victory and great was LINCOLN.

The South immediately set up the cry that the election was a "sectional and minority election," and between election day and the date when LINCOLN was to be sworn into office several of the Southern States seceded from the Union and set up a government of their own at Montgomery, Ala. They seized Federal forts, arsenals, customhouses, post offices, and everything else they could appropriate which would aid them in a war which was sure to follow.

On the 4th of March, 1861, ABRAHAM LINCOLN was inaugurated President of the United States. How I should love to have seen that ceremony and listened to the words of wisdom as they fell from his lips during his inaugural address. What a privilege it must have been to look into his sad and pensive face as he counseled his countrymen to remain cool during the pending crisis. His whole address was summed up in two short paragraphs:

The power confided in me will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the Government and to collect the duties and imports, but beyond what may be necessary for these objects there will be no invasion, no use of force, among the people anywhere.

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourself aggressors.

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The South became the aggressors and inevitable war followed. The trials and tribulations of the great LINCOLN were many during these dark and uncertain days; but out of his tribulations came patience, and out of patience came experience, and out of experience came hope, according to the Scriptures. His love for man seemed to grow in the very face of the fiercest war that has ever been waged. A war between father and son, brother and brother—a horrible, unthinkable war. LINCOLN well knew, however, that the end justified the means, and realized that out of the awful slaughter of men and loss of treasure would come a reunited country and lasting peace; and, far more important than either reunion or peace, he knew that the shackles which bound in servitude a race of people would fall from bruised limbs and 4,000,000 souls would march erect into the bright sunlight of sweet freedom. Thank God, the great emancipator lived long enough to witness this, his crowning achievement.

Some writers hold that LINCOLN's death was timely, in that it prevented a possible political error during the reconstruction period which might have sullied in some degree his illustrious services. I do not believe it, and I am sorry he did not live to know that even the most radical of southern sympathizers now rejoice in the delivery from bondage of a race of human beings into the glorious realm of liberty; and I am persuaded that had the fatal bullet never been fired from the pistol of the assassin, Booth, no public act of his, had he lived to this good day, would have resulted in anything but good to his fellow man. His great foresight and his inborn love for justice would have precluded such a result. The present universal admiration for his matchless services frowns upon the very intimation of such a thing. He was too great, too sympathetic, too far-seeing, too wise, and too just to enter into any arrangement whereby anything but the full measure of justice would result to all.

Commemoration of the Nation's heroes is not only proper, but it is wise. It fosters patriotism, without which no country can be great.

LINCOLN's life was one of purest patriotism; it was devoted unselfishly to the promotion of the country's good. He was the friend of mankind; he believed in manhood; he wanted too

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see this a land of freedom in fact as well as in name. He worked to that end. He assumed a great burden when he took the Presidency; he met the responsibilities with courage and a heart full of charity, but he met them and overcame every difficulty; he conquered the foes of free government and made this a Government of manhood suffrage.

When this Government was formed it was the most gigantic experiment of the kind ever attempted by man; it was given no place in the political considerations of the world; it was thought to be but a passing illusion. No one believed the experiment would succeed; failure was freely predicted. A government by the people, it was said, was impossible. But Washington's Government still lives. It has grown and prospered. It has become a great world power. It thrills with potent life and exalted hopes. The Civil War was the one test needed to prove the ability of the people to govern themselves, and never was the Nation so full of life, so filled with courage, so encouraging to the friends of freedom, so menacing to the foes of the Republic as when the sun of Appomattox shone upon its banner and revealed within its azure ground the full galaxy of its stars.

Through the instrumentality of the martyred LINCOLN and his patriotic followers were fought the battles for the preservation of the Union, and we of the present day are enabled to live in a land where every citizen is a sovereign and every man, woman, and child is free to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; a land whose inventions lead the world, where the printing press and the church follow close upon the march of empire, where caste is ignored, where the humblest child of poverty may aspire, unrebuked, to the highest place in the gift of the Nation.

It is fitting that the birthplace of this great man should be preserved as an evidence that lowly birth is no handicap to greatness. It should be preserved as an example to the youth of the land and as an encouragement to emulate the life of LINCOLN and to keep constantly before the minds of the people that, great though LINCOLN was in his maturity, after all if he had not been born there could have been no such history as is recorded through his life, his sacrifices, and his patriotic achievements.



## REMARKS BY MR. HARRISON, OF MISSISSIPPI

Mr. Chairman, in the consideration and discussion of this bill, proposing that the Government of the United States take over and preserve the home in Kentucky in which ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born, it is not inappropriate that I place in the Record a letter that I received in my mail only a few moments ago from as gallant an array of men and women as ever lived.

Not far from the home in which the martyred LINCOLN was born Jefferson Davis was born.

Like LINCOLN, his life was spent in another State—and service extended beyond any section. Beauvoir, on the shores of the Mississippi Sound, was the last home of Mr. Davis. For the last decade that beautiful place has been transformed into a home for Confederate veterans. About 250 of these gallant old soldiers, although true to the cause which in the sixties they espoused, to-day are as true to the Union and as loyal to that flag as are the men who in the sixties enlisted in the Federal Armies. The letter, Mr. Chairman, that I ask unanimous consent to place in the Record has come to me from these old patriots, tendering their services to the President to go into Mexico as a part of the Armies of this Government, if necessary.



# *Homestead of Abraham Lincoln*

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THE JEFFERSON DAVIS BEAUVOIR SOLDIERS' HOME,

*Gulfport, Miss., March 23, 1916.*

Mr. PAT HARRISON, M. C.

DEAR SIR: We the undersigned Confederate veterans of Beauvoir Soldiers' Home tender our services to the President, if needed, to join the Army for Mexico.

J. C. Granigan, Dan. Robertson, J. C. Calhoun, A. Adair, J. S. Brown, R. I. Lanius, J. C. Summers, S. O. Freeman, J. T. Farr, A. R. A. Harris, J. F. Mercer, W. D. Cooke, A. S. Furr, J. L. Thomasson, G. F. Jones, W. W. Gibson, Sam. E. Jones, C. W. Agnew, J. W. Patterson, S. H. Powell, T. J. N. Bloodworth, H. M. Wilson, C. M. Walker, J. C. Bridewell, W. M. Collins, R. C. Clark, R. C. Le Cloud, A. P. Sparks, W. R. Jonston, Capt. W. A. Dill, W. F. Gainey, J. C. Ainsworth, E. A. Johnson, Jas. A. Locke, G. W. Barns, F. M. Sharp, J. W. Hunter, R. B. Johnson, Chas. Taliaferro, Thom. D. Reed, W. E. Luse, J. C. McKenzie, J. H. Allen, J. H. Jennings, W. J. Ray, A. G. Wood, W. S. Hickingbottom, J. G. Worsham, J. H. Harell, B. C. Covington, P. R. S. Baily, I. B. Baldrige, J. McDonald, R. N. Robinson, P. A. Cook, Mrs. P. B. Kine, T. J. Buckley, S. H. Box, O. R. Mallette, John Noble, R. H. Porter, O. S. Beck, W. D. Franks, James Everett, J. A. Lott, B. F. Sadler, Dennis Kane, James A. Cuevas, S. W. Brister, W. J. Pittman, G. F. Allin, C. S. Smith, W. J. Long, C. A. Binet, W. W. Robeson, C. A. Breard, T. W. Hughes, G. W. Hill, W. H. Stevens, E. C. Robinson, W. M. Marshall, E. P. Hitt, A. H. House, Georg W. Christie, J. T. Gibson, J. H. Thorn, T. J. Harrell, S. J. Lane, J. W. Dyers, W. A. Wood, I. N. Webb, C. C. Nelson, A. J. Eastling, A. J. Duren, J. D. Grubbs, W. T. Hester, Sol Happs, J. A. J. Cagle, Thomas E. Wright, G. J. Ward. Total, 100, and many others.

If we are old, we are good guns yet.

Yours, respectfully,

J. C. G.





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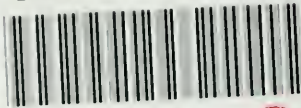








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